

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Castro Affair

Some of the thousands who turned out for the 17th annual Castro Street Fair on Oct. 17. Story, page 20.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Liability Question Makes Prop. K More Controversial

by Ray O'Loughlin

The push to recognize lesbian and gay relationships has taken off. Across the United States, eight cities from West Hollywood to New York City now accord some degree of respect for the rights of gay couples. A number of others are beginning to grapple with the issue.

Analysis

And in Seattle and San Francisco, all eyes are on two ballot initiatives. Seattle's Initiative 35 would repeal the domestic partners portion of the city's comprehensive family leave ordinance. In San Francisco, Proposition K seeks to establish a domestic partners registration system.

San Francisco has had a rocky history on the domestic

partners issue. First proposed and passed by the Board of Supervisors in 1982 under the aegis of gay Supervisor Harry Britt, it was vetoed by then Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

A year later Feinstein's own special commission on benefits for city employees recommended recognition of partnerships. But the idea lay dormant until 1989. That year Britt again succeeded in getting the board to pass a domestic partners ordinance, which Mayor Art Agnos promptly signed into law. But that measure was repealed by the narrow failure of Prop S last November.

Now city voters again face the issue. This time Prop K will establish only registration for domestic partners. It is intended to provide a mechanism for lesbian and gay couples to document their relationships but non-gay couples

can also use the system.

Prop K is a simple measure, essentially a pared down version of what was in the ordinance killed when Prop S was defeated. Gone is the requirement that the city treat partnerships on an equal footing with marriages in eligibility for all benefits and services.

Prop K, however, does one thing that prior versions did not do. It explicitly states that because partners are mutually liable for each other's basic welfare, third parties can use the partnership registration — which is public record — as a means of collecting certain debts of one partner from the other.

This has set off a controversy in legal circles, especially concerning potential problems for people with HIV and the lovers who care for them.

(Continued on page 21)

First Time in U.S.

Rainbow Flag To Fly Over State Capitol

by M.R. Covino

SACRAMENTO — The Gay Rainbow Flag will fly from the dome of California's State Capitol on Oct. 11, in recognition of National Coming Out Day, the Joint Rules Committee of the state Senate and Assembly ruled on Oct. 10.

Ken Topper, a legislative aide to Senate Pro Tem David Roberti and past-president of Sacramento's gay and lesbian River City Democratic Club, asked Sen. Milton Marks (D-San Francisco), to carry the request to Joint Rules.

"He agreed immediately," Topper said, "and he made the request on Oct. 3 and approval came today, Oct. 10."

The flag will be raised at sunrise on Oct. 11, with the other flags that fly over the Capitol. When the flags are taken down, the Rainbow Flag will be sent to National Coming Out Day headquarters in Santa Fe, N.M., and will be accompanied by a resolution acknowledging Marks and other individuals who supported the effort.

The resolution will note the historic significance that the flag is the first Rainbow

(Continued on page 15)



Activists chain themselves together at the Federal Building.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

ACT UP Protests For Drug Access

by Dave Gilden

Fearing that the huge numbers of HIVers on AZT are running out of time and starting to decline into AIDS and die, ACT UP/Golden Gate demonstrated outside the UN Plaza Federal Building on Oct. 9.

About 150 people participated in the demonstration. Among other things, demonstrators chanted, "Access is a right, not just for the straight and white," while 16 persons handcuffed themselves to the federal building doors.

Fifteen men and one woman were arrested by federal guards, cited and released a few hours later.

The demonstrators want accelerated approval of ddI and ddC, two new drugs in the AZT family.

Like AZT, ddI and ddC block the integration of the HIV virus into human cells' genes.

The two substances' side effects are different, however, and viruses resistant to AZT are still susceptible to ddI or ddC therapy.

People taking AZT alone experience a loss of drug effectiveness and a renewed downward spiral after a year or so on the medication.

HIV develops AZT-resistance in this time frame, too, although the connection be-

(Continued on page 17)

NGRA to Represent Cadet

by Dennis Conkin

National Gay Rights Advocates and Tamar Pachter of Farella, Braun and Martel have agreed to represent Peter Laska, who was booted out of the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corp because he was gay.

Laska, 23, whose dream was to become a Navy fighter pilot, was dismissed from the University of Pennsylvania NROTC program in 1987 and ordered to repay a \$26,000 scholarship.



Peter Laska

In December 1989 Laska received a letter from NROTC reasserting its claim for the scholarship money and requesting that he send a check or arrange to make

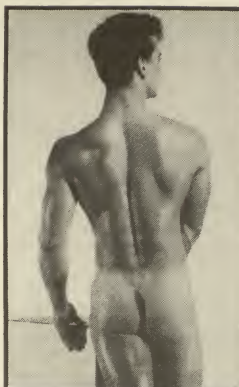
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B.A.R. columnist hangs it up after 19 years, page 29.

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House OKs Bill Eliminating Anti-Gay Immigration Stance

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON — The U.S. House on Oct. 3 narrowly passed a comprehensive bill revamping the nation's immigration laws, which includes a provision striking the 25-year-old ban on immigration by foreign-born gay men and lesbians.

The bill, the Family Unity and Medical Opportunity Immigration Act of 1990, sponsored by Rep. Bruce Morrison (D-Conn.), re-establishes the quotas of foreign nationals allowed into the country.

As it is controversial in its vast restructuring of U.S. immigration law, it passed the House on a close 231-192 vote.

The bill contains in it a provision, added as an amendment by Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), in the Judiciary Committee, that strikes the federal ban on gay and lesbian immigration.

The House bill must now

go to conference with a Senate measure that does not include the Frank provision.

Frank will sit on the joint panel and has secured the support of conferees Sens. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.) for retaining his amendment in the final version of the bill.

The Departments of Justice and Labor have recommended a veto of the House bill in its present form because of 14 technical points of disagreement, all unrelated to the Frank amendment.

A White House spokesperson, though, minimized the differences, calling the Justice and Labor complaints "structural problems" with the bill. "The House bill we do have problems with," said White House Assistant Press Secretary Alix Glen. "I think we prefer the Senate version."

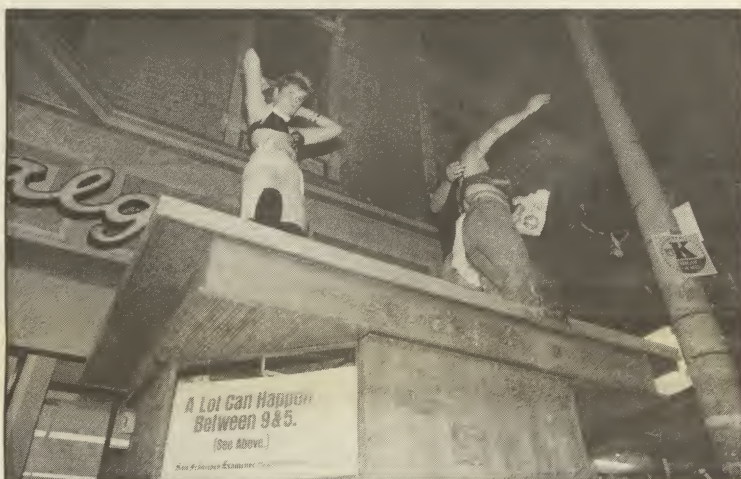
Frank, however, was optimistic that the conference

committee will eventually come out with a bill that will be signed by the president.

"I think there is a very good chance it will become law," predicted Chai Feldblum, a lobbyist with the American Civil Liberties Union. "The enemy at this point is the ticking of the clock. It will have to get out (of conference) before Congress gets out (in mid-October)."

The Frank amendment strikes a list of health-related grounds in standing U.S. immigration law for which foreigners may be barred. Immigration by foreign nationals who are "mentally retarded or insane, or have had more than one attack of insanity"; who are "afflicted with a psychopathic personality, sexual deviation or mental defect"; or who are "narcotic drug addicts or chronic alcoholics" are now barred.

(Continued on page 25)



Demonstrators party on Castro Street after the AIDS budget cut march. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

ACT UP Protests Budget Cuts, Marks Oct. 6 Castro Clash

by Dennis Conkin

An ACT UP protest drew an estimated 600 demonstrators to a spirited march from the ARCAIDS Vigil at United Nations Plaza to Castro Street's Harvey Milk Plaza Oct. 6.

The march followed the same route as a march last Oct. 6, which ended with a confrontation between San Francisco police and ACT UP protesters in the Castro.

The march was part of a multicity demonstration held to protest cuts in the 1991 allocations for the Kennedy-Hatch Ryan White AIDS Care Bill of close to \$750 million.

The bill provides federal appropriations for AIDS/HIV services, including early intervention and HIV testing, patient care, AZT and prevention services.

"Justice, equality, it's all a fucking lie. The homophobic government is letting people die," chanted activists as they marched up Market Street, escorted by a police squad car and patrol van.

As the crowd reached Van (Continued on page 30)

Lobbyists Gearing Up

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON — The lobbyists have taken to the halls of Congress en masse to cash in on the budget mess.

And along with representatives from interests ranging from tobacco and alcohol companies to senior citizen

biysts.

What makes the situation more precarious, though, is that because of the massive budget deficit, any final budget proposal could similarly threaten this and future years' AIDS budgets.

"We could find ourselves in double jeopardy," Tom Sheridan, lobbyist for the AIDS Action Council, said.

The defeated joint package would have placed an arbitrary cap on the growth of AIDS spending during the next five years, tying it to the rate of inflation. If that provision remains in a final budget package, he notes, it could spell doom, not only for this year's AIDS budget, but for those of the next five.

Not only does that endanger funding for existing programs, AIDS lobbyists point out, but it also particularly threatens funding of a popular AIDS care bill recently signed by the president.

The measure, the Ryan (Continued on page 30)

Castro Theatre Won't Be Sold

by Dave Gilden

Local film industry sources report that some or all of the art cinema houses run by the Blumenfeld theatre chain, which operates the Castro Theatre, are about to be sold to Landmark Theatres of California. The Castro is reportedly not among the properties for sale.

According to a source familiar with the proposed sale, Los Angeles-based Pacific Theatres, which owns several dozen Bay Area screens that the locally based Blumenfeld Enterprises formerly owned and now operates for the chain, is selling five San Francisco properties to Landmark.

The properties are the four-screen Opera Plaza Cinemas, the three-screen Lumiere Theatres and the one-



The historic Castro Theatre.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

screen Clay, Bridge and Gateway theatres.

A sixth Blumenfeld property, the 4-Star Theatre, is closing at the end of the month and reportedly not part of the Landmark deal.

The move, said the industry source, represents a further consolidation of art house cinemas around the country.

Landmark operates 40 theatres nationwide, mostly in the West, including the U.C. Theatre in Berkeley and the Nuart Theatre in Los Angeles.

Asked to comment on the possible sale of the properties, Bob Blumenfeld refused to talk about selling the theatres

other than to say, "Anything is available at a price."

As far as the Castro Theatre is concerned, Blumenfeld said, "We're delighted with the Castro and want to continue restoring it and operating it as usual."

Another member of the Blumenfeld organization confirmed that "the Castro has been doing really well, and there are no plans to change it."

Several years ago, the Castro was embroiled in controversy over rumors that it would be converted to a two-screen operation and its art-house programming modified. ▼

Gay Man Injured In Castro Assault

by Dennis Conkin

Oct. 7 — 1:05 a.m.

Police responding to an aggravated assault/gay bashing at 16th and Castro found Thomas Patrick lying on the sidewalk, suffering from a bloody nose and a facial laceration.

According to the police report, three Caucasian males and a Caucasian female in a truck drove past Patrick, 24, and a friend, Edward Navarro, and began yelling anti-gay remarks.

The suspects then got out of the truck and beat Thomas to the ground with their fists.

While Thomas was on the ground, the suspects began kicking him in the head. Navarro came to Thomas' assistance and the suspects began beating him. At this point the suspects suddenly stopped their attack and fled down

Castro in their truck.

Two witnesses observed the tail end of the incident and gave partial suspect descriptions and vehicle descriptions.

Patrick was transported to Mission Emergency. At press time there was no information about his condition.

Descriptions — Suspect 1: Caucasian male, 18 years old, 5'8", 140 lbs., white top, blue jeans, short black hair and glasses. Suspect 2: Caucasian male, 17 years old, 5'9", 155 lbs., black hair, white shirt and blue jeans. Suspect 3: Caucasian male, driver of vehicle. Suspect 4: Caucasian female, 18 years old, 5'8", 140 lbs., dark clothing and frosted hair.

Police are looking for the vehicle used in the felony, a light-blue truck, possibly a Nissan, with out-of-state license plates 236 TSM.

(Continued on page 5)

Alleged Basher To Be Arraigned

by Dennis Conkin

Kevin Lobo, 25, arrested May 18 in the Dolores Park gay bashing of Gary Clayton, has been bound over to Superior Court for prosecution.

Lobo will be arraigned Oct. 19 in Dept. 22 of the Superior Court on charges of assault with a deadly weapon with great bodily injury, battery and violating Clayton's civil rights. He faces up to seven years in prison for the hate crime.

Lobo continues to be held in sheriff's custody on \$200,000 bail in the case.

Lobo was arrested by two plainclothes police officers who came to the assistance of Clayton, 39, who was making a shortcut through the park to catch a streetcar when he was assaulted.

According to police reports, Lobo and four other Hispanic males followed Clayton and chased him through the park yelling, "Kill the fag" and other anti-gay epithets.

Clayton was cornered in a garage entry way and beaten with a two-by-four and a hammer.

An alert cab driver drew police to the scene by backing up Church Street blaring his horn. Three women who lived nearby, two of them sisters armed with golf clubs, also came to Clayton's rescue.

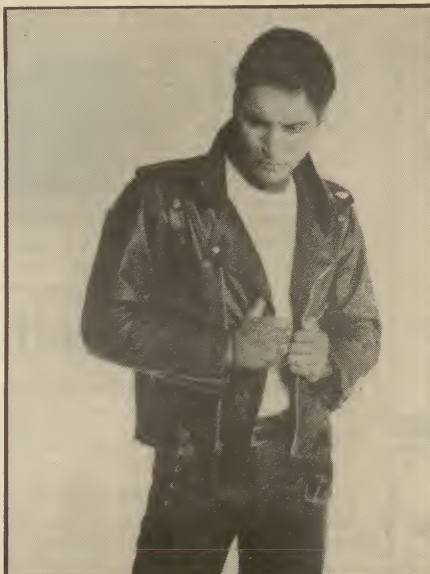
According to Ron Huberman, an investigator for the District Attorney's office, the spontaneous response of concerned citizens led to Lobo's arrest, and he adds that their intervention saved Clayton's life.

"It's a great example of what we're always saying, that people need to look out for each other and be the eyes and ears of their neighbor-

(Continued on page 5)

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Doctors, AIDS Activists Clash
At Clinical Trials Forum

by Dave Gilden

An Oct. 6 community forum at Davies Medical Center highlighted the differing motives of doctors and patients in clinical trials of new AIDS drugs.

The event, entitled "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Being in an HIV/AIDS Clinical Trial," was sponsored by Patient Advocates for Necessary Treatment and a variety of treatment research centers and activist groups.

Several hundred people attended the workshops and visited the clinical trials information tables set up by 13 organizations ranging from Project Inform to San Francisco General Hospital.

Differences in viewpoint emerged right away, at the "Clinical Trials 101" workshop, and developed throughout the day.

Clinical Trials 101, conducted by Drs. Donald Abrams and Mark Jacobson of San Francisco General, was intended to provide the participants the medical establishment's explanation about the way trials are structured.

Jacobson and Abrams waded through the complex procedures making up a trial, arguing that trial structure had been elaborated after due consideration of all that was necessary to prove a drug's effectiveness.

Placebos Defended

For example, Abrams stated

ed that without placebos, trials of drugs would need many times more participants and take a lot longer.

Jacobson came to the defense of the Food and Drug Administration "as the least biased of the players" in the process of bringing new drugs to the market.

When it was pointed out that clinical trials as now conceived can take years to complete, Jacobson and Abrams stated they had "no answer right now," as to how drug testing could be accelerated.

Jacobson, in particular, was unhappy about the prospects of early approval of anti-HIV drugs ddI and ddC.

He argued that there is not yet enough data to prove

(Continued on page 31)

Forum Focuses
On Lesbian Issues

Lesbian Agenda for Action and other groups will hold a forum for candidates running for supervisor Oct. 16.

"Our questions will focus on issues of concern to the lesbian community. Lesbian issues include issues of concern to women and people of color. Our issues also include homelessness, rent control, affordable housing, family and child care policy, job discrimination, pay equity, health care, violence and transportation issues," said Martha Knutzen, a LAFA spokesperson.

The forum will be held at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St. at Valencia, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Candidates will have 10 minutes and will be asked several questions by a moderator. Candidates are invited to remain following the forum and answer questions after the event.

For information concerning the event, call Jennifer Wilson, administrative director of Lesbian Agenda for Action, at 552-5677. ▼



Greetings

Queer Nation activists meet the fleet at Pier 32 on Oct. 7 during Fleet Week activities.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

'Roberta Weather'

Achtenberg Supporters Rock the Box

by Will Snyder

Comedian Marga Gomez surveyed the audience at a recent Roberta Achtenberg for Supervisor rally and came up with the comment which seemed to get everyone excited.

"It was a hot day," said Gomez, referring to the 90-plus degree temperature Oct. 3. "It is a hot night. It's Roberta weather."

Gomez then joined a troupe of dancers in a specially written, red-hot rap song which brought enthusiastic cheers from a crowd of 500 Achtenberg supporters at The Box.

As the dancers bumped, ground and groped onstage, Gomez brought the house down with lyrics such as:

"Barbara Boxer, Winnie Mandela, Vote for ladies, not just fellas."

Gomez was one of many all-star performers who warmed up the audience for a later appearance by Achtenberg. Also onstage were Joann Loulen, Lisa Geduldig, Maureen Brownsey, Diane Amos, Karen Williams and (later) Kaylan, The Kuru and the Blazing Redheads.

These performers, mostly comedians, set a merry mood for the arrival of Achtenberg on the Divisadero Street nightclub stage. The packed crowd responded enthusiastically to every reference to Achtenberg while three screens flashed tranquil scenes of the Achtenberg home life.

Finally, it was time for Achtenberg to turn on the crowd. She didn't speak very long, but she brought rousing cheers from the crowd when she said that her campaign "is about those people who have been left out or forgotten in

this society."

Later, in an exclusive interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, she indicated that the fundraiser/rally was a big success. "There were 500 people at the rally," Achtenberg said. "We distributed 400 house signs and registered 100 new voters."

Those statistics are important to the Achtenberg campaign. According to pollster David Binder and a new *San Francisco Independent* poll, Achtenberg is hanging on to fifth place, a position which would get her on the Board of Supervisors.

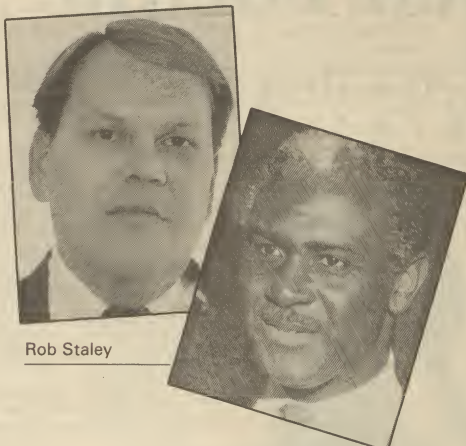
Currently, according to the *Independent* poll, Achtenberg has captured the 19.2 percent of those polled. Supervisors Bill Maher and Doris Ward are leading the poll, while former supervisor Carol Ruth Silver is third and Arlo Smith Jr. is fourth. ▼

900 Line For Gantt A Big Success

by Dennis Conkin

Last April, when Rob Staley and some of his friends got angry with right-wing efforts at censorship and suppression of artistic freedom, they decided to do something about it.

"We were angry over Maplethorpe in Cincinnati and the National Endowment for the Arts. We thought that it had gone too far and that something had to be done," Staley told the *Bay Area Reporter*.



Rob Staley

Harvey Gantt

Staley's colleagues and friends formed the First Amendment Crisis Team, which operates a 900 line.

"We got the idea for the line by trying to think of a way to reach people and

make it easy for them to respond," he stated.

However, it took six months for the idea to become a reality.

"We were appalled at the process and how long it took. For example, we dealt with the Federal Elections Commission to find out what we could do and not do. It takes so long to work out all the details," Staley recalled.

The group has been refused television commercials on almost every television station, Staley said, and all network television.

"Locally, KPIX is the only network affiliate that we're on. In many cities, no station would sell us time," he said.

The 900 line is a big success. On the slowest day, the line tallied only 19 calls, "but there have been days," according to Staley, "where there have been a couple of thousand calls. An official tally won't be available until the

line is shut down."

About \$2.50 of each \$9.99 call is spent paying for the phone line, advertising and other expenses.

The rest is funneled into the effort by Harvey Gantt to defeat Jesse Helms in the South Carolina U.S. Senate Race.

The group was notified Oct. 5 that South Carolina Bell decided not to bill for the calls in their service area.

"Because of the political nature of the calls, they felt that it constituted a political contribution," Staley said.

According to Staley, the decision by South Carolina Bell was indicative of the success of the line. "They're not by nature pro-active. They only shut down if there are complaints."

One can only wonder who in South Carolina might have complained to the company. The number for the line is 1-900-230-HELP. ▼

Arraigned

(Continued from page 3)

hoods. In this instance, a cab driver heading for the Castro to pick up a fare and make a buck chose to get involved. The sisters were roused from their sleep and came outside, instead of just looking out the window. They got involved. The cab driver tailed Lobo. The sisters called 911 before they came outside."

Gary Clayton told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he was certain the assailants were going to kill him.

"When they cornered me, I kissed my life goodbye. I wouldn't be here if people had not come to my aid. I will be forever grateful for what the cab driver and the women did. I feel like I owe them my life."

Another suspect, Rodolfo Rocha, pled guilty in the gay bashing and is serving a term in state prison. ▼

Assault

(Continued from page 3)

Oct. 6 — 1 a.m.

Police responded to a call at 19th and Castro, where two witnesses were assisting Russell Schaupp, the victim of a strong-arm robbery at 19th and Collingwood.

According to the police report (descriptions provided by the witnesses), the two suspects — a black male, 5'6", 175 lbs., about 29 years of age and a Latino male, about 32, short black hair, black levis, a red shirt with a black print or stripe — moved Schaupp out of public view and then started to remove his watch, which fell to the ground.

The report states that Schaupp was very intoxicated and unable to provide any information other than some men stole his watch. Suspect 1 picked up the watch, and the pair fled west on 19th Street from Collingwood. Police searched the area but to no avail. Loss: One Seiko watch with a titanium band valued at \$3,000. ▼

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EDITORIAL



A Gratifying Verdict

After a series of setbacks for artistic freedom of expression, it was gratifying last week to see a jury find the Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center and its director innocent of violating obscenity laws in what has been commonly referred to as "the Mapplethorpe case." The Mapplethorpe photograph show, which had traveled to several locations around the country without previous incident, has been Jesse Helms' whipping boy for over a year now, somehow representing all of the ills of government-sponsored art.

The term "community standards" has long been a smoke-screen behind which repressive forces have hidden as they have attempted to force their agenda on the nation. By acquitting the museum and its director, the jury of Cincinnati suburbanites implicitly acknowledged that since 80,000 of their fellow citizens had voluntarily attended the Mapplethorpe exhibition, it thereby had met community standards. The verdict left a ray of hope that the principles on which this country was founded can withstand the onslaught of those who seek to control the free flow of thought in the United States.

As much a cause for celebration as the Mapplethorpe verdict was, however, last week saw two ominous reminders that would-be censors have not retired. Two selectmen in Dedham, Mass., put pressure on a local theatre not to show Philip Kaufman's highly praised *Henry and June*, which contains erotic imagery, including intimate lesbian scenes.

And in Florida, a jury convicted a record store owner on obscenity charges for selling the black rap group 2 Live Crew's *As Nasty as We Want to Be* album, the lyrics of which, as the

rock critic for the *New York Times* has pointed out, are not any more provocative than those of many white heavy metal groups who have not become subjects of harassment.

Both incidents are problematic since they involve messages and messengers from outside the so-called mainstream, a situation which makes them ripe for attack.

In a year that may likely see either the gutting of the National Endowment for the Arts or restrictions on the content of NEA grants, it is heartening that a museum that exhibited the NEA-funded Mapplethorpe show was acquitted of obscenity charges.

The fight to end censorship is by no means over, however, and members of the gay community would be wise to participate in the ongoing efforts in support of freedom of expression. ▼

A Fair Shake for Police & Firefighters

Crime rates in San Francisco are soaring; police cannot respond to all the calls. Why? One of the many reasons given is not enough police officers. In a city known for its generosity, it seems we are treating our police and firefighters like second-class citizens. In pay formulas adopted in 1976, salaries were set by formula and raises were automatic. The formula overlooked many benefits including family medical coverage, dental plans, poor working conditions and a lack of educational incentives. Because these necessities are not being addressed, we have an attrition rate that is higher than average; almost 33 percent of trained personnel are leaving for other law enforcement agencies around the state.

What makes this attrition even sadder is the fact that most of these officers are minorities. After fighting for so many years to integrate the Police and Fire Departments it is sad to see these gains erode due to lack of benefits and incentives.

Proposition D would help to reverse this erosion of qualified police officers. It would provide for negotiating and arbitration for the city's Police and Fire Departments. These would be the same rights enjoyed by their counterparts in the nation's largest cities. Let's give San Francisco's elected officials the ability to negotiate changes in the salaries and compensation packages in a sensible, sane manner. Pay increase reductions could be negotiated for family medical care at no cost to the city.

Proposition D would also prohibit strikes. It would, in addition, protect the affirmative action programs as mandated by local, state and federal antidiscrimination laws and regulations. This proposition would not interfere with complaints filed with the Office of Citizens Complaints.

We must allow police and firefighters a voice in decisions that affect their safety and well-being. We must provide a fair and impartial way to determine benefits and working conditions. Negotiation and arbitration have proven their effectiveness across the country. It will work here as well.

That's why we are joining the long list of respected supporters in urging you to vote YES on Proposition D. ▼

GUEST OPINION

Queer 'Separatist' Nation?

I went to a Queer Nation meeting to join with our brothers and sisters and to invite them to the next "Help Save Our Neighborhood" meetings Oct. 10 and 26. I have to say that I was very disturbed by the plans they were formulating at the meeting to spray paint buildings and sidewalks in our neighborhood. I was even more disturbed to hear the separatism that was being expressed.

Trying to divide our community into separate communities of gay and straight somehow bothers me a whole lot. It made me wonder whether the goal of this organization and several similar ones is to solve community problems, or if the goal is to divide up the neighborhood into warring groups never solving the real issues facing us which are neither strictly gay nor straight issues.

Solving the serious problems of street violence and robberies, which we all know are on the rise in and around the Castro, is going to take the united support of everyone in the neighborhood. And let me add that solving these problems is also going to take building a working relationship with our police force rather than trying to alienate them.

I was really disturbed to find support from CUAV for the plans being formulated at this meeting. The remarks that "the police are not our friends" expressed by the woman who organized the Queer Nation meeting do not seem to be in keeping with CUAV's purpose.

Thursday morning, Oct. 4, I went to CUAV's offices and asked why CUAV supports Queer Nation. I wanted to know why at the same time CUAV has not been willing to attend the Help Save Our Neighborhood meetings which they have been invited to.

It is difficult for me to understand why CUAV, a government-funded organization, seems to be supporting groups which work outside the law, but is not interested in working with one which works with the law. I wanted to know why CUAV is willing to support a group which represents only a small segment of the overall community but is not willing to support Help Save Our Neighborhood, a group which represents people from all segments of our neighborhood. CUAV's response was to insist that I leave their offices.

I was upset to see Queer Nation's plans come to fruition this past weekend. The graffiti that has been spread throughout the Castro by this group is repugnant to me and I know to a lot of other people in and around the Castro. The posters that Queer Nation has put up telling straight people that essentially they are unwelcome in the Castro (the queer nation?) are themselves unwelcome. I am now embarrassed to bring straight friends with me into our neighborhood, and it certainly makes it more difficult to enlist their help with neighborhood problems like street violence and robberies.

The divisiveness and separatism pushed by Queer Nation are unhealthy and, when you think about it, not even good politics. Whatever happened to "Together we stand, divided we fall"? I also remember that one of Harvey Milk's greatest strengths when he was a city supervisor was that he represented and cared about all of the people in his area, gay and straight.

—Tony Fiore

LETTERS

Correcting Misconceptions

★ I am compelled to address the recent article on the terrible knifing that took place in front of Twin Peaks Tavern Sept. 14. I wish to correct some misperceptions about Twin Peaks' suggested indifference.

Sadly, verbal exchanges are not uncommon after closing time on our corner. When the incident appeared to become a physical altercation, I did phone 911.

In the time it took to have an exchange with the operator, the knifing had occurred, the attacker had fled and the victim was in a cab and leaving the scene. There was no time to "intervene."

I know I can speak on behalf of the entire staff when I say we support Community United Against Violence wholeheartedly. This is not the first incident in which we have phoned for help as a result of altercations at this intersection. The knifing was over in a matter of seconds and help was called.

Jeff Green, Bartender
Twin Peaks Tavern
San Francisco



Insult to Injury

★ My mind was boggled after reading the article describing the brutal knife attack perpetrated against Mark Ammer.

While the brutality itself was cause for grave concern (fortunately Mr. Ammer will survive), what "worked my nerves to no end" was the non-chalance of the neighborhood merchants and their patrons. Talk about adding insult to injury!

Has AIDS calloused us so much? Or are we all just a little too smug with our own witty friends and affluent lifestyles that we just can't be bothered?

My applause to Tom Gallagher, the friend of Mr. Ammer, who found the time to go confront area merchants with questions about their policies regarding crime.

And, as for the hero, the Good Samaritan cab driver, let's get some money together and treat this man to something as our way of saying thanks.

Forget Miller beer, let's boycott any place or any one who shows such a lackadaisical concern for the homosexual race's well-being.

If we can't see clear to take care of our own, then we should move back to fucking Kansas or wherever we came from. It seems it's all we deserve.

Rex Williams
San Francisco

The Greater Crime?

★ As gay and lesbian people of color, we are appalled at your lack of sensitivity in identifying the race of the alleged assailants involved in the violent altercation outside the Twin Peaks Tavern ("Gay Man Knifed on Castro," Sept. 20). Acts of violence against any person are reprehensible, no matter what the color or race of the person committing the violence or of the victim of the violence.

It is good that attacks on members of the lesbian and gay community are brought to light through the pages of your paper. However, inflammatory, racially insensitive "journalism" which fosters and perpetuates negative stereotypes and divisiveness among our community cannot and will not be tolerated. Such irresponsible journalism only serves to encourage future acts of violence based on prejudice and unjustified fear.

Which is the greater crime — violent acts against gay and lesbian people by those outside of our community, or acts of violence committed by and against people in our own community, prompted by racial fear, ignorance and insensitivity, which your lack of journalistic integrity exhibits? It is an outrage and disservice to the lesbian and gay community, particularly to those of us of color.

We, the United Colors of Queer Nation, ask you, in the spirit of fostering true community, to

reassess your commitment and responsibility to all your readers, and to exercise greater editorial responsibility in meeting that commitment.

United Colors of Queer Nation
San Francisco

★ ★ ★

Dennis Conkin Responds

★ Editor,

As a working journalist, I take attacks on my professional integrity extremely seriously because they are damaging to my reputation and can have considerable economic impact on my career.

I am deeply distressed that euphemistic charges of "inflammatory" and "racially insensitive" journalism have been levelled at my reporting of a recent assault in the Castro district. Straight up, the group is calling my reporting racist.

It is particularly stinging that these charges have been levelled in an unsigned and anonymous letter by a committee of Queer Nation. Who, pray tell, are my accusers?

Journalists and activists in El Salvador and elsewhere are also sent anonymous, unsigned letters by political committees. It's a cowardly tactic of terror and I'm sorry to see a lesbian and gay group adopting the practice.

For the record, however, I stand by my reporting of the incident. The material that so offends the United Colors of Queer Nation was a direct quote by a principal and relevant to the body of the story.

According to the *AP Handbook*, identification by race is pertinent in a variety of instances, and including biographical and announcement stories, and when it provides readers with insight into conflict-of-emotion situations like demonstrations. It's also used in suspect identification. There was no derogatory intent in my reporting of Mr. Ammer's comment.

I'm also distressed that in a further attempt to damage my reputation and embarrass and harass me, the committee decided to circulate the letter throughout the local gay press.

Dennis Conkin
San Francisco

Environment Bashers

★ With the increase in crime in the Castro area, one would think that most organizations would try to keep the area cleaner. Not so!

In fact Queer "Nerd" Nation held a meeting in Duboce Park on Sept. 22. (You know the group that defaces property with the slogan "Queers Bash Back.") Nerd Nation proceeded to bash the environment. Not only did its members leave trash all over the park, but did graffiti, defaced public and private property with those idiotic stickers and then tipped over a full trash container at the entrance to the park.

Are these Nerds our friends? No! People who destroy and deface property only strain an already tight city budget. Secondly, they contribute to an increase in crime by destroying the beauty of our neighborhoods.

And then as if that were not enough, the next weekend Nerd Nation defaced property with very divisive signs that began with a warning to straights. Not only did they put the leaflets on every barren wall, they also painted graffiti across the sidewalk in many places, warning straights to beware.

I'm not sure of *what* unless it's a quick purse or a knitting needle. They sure can't bash anything back unless it's something that can't defend itself — the environment for example. Witness what happened to them in the Fillmore. Yeh!

I've never understood the purpose of putting all kinds of litter all over an area many of us call home. I'd like to ask these people if they have a wall at home or a car that I could write on and place fliers one over another.

Project Safe warns that neighborhoods are prone to increased criminal activity if they are perceived to be in decline. Why does Nerd Nation want to destroy a neighborhood to supposedly save it? Think about it, Castro residents. Are these people our friends? No!

When you see members of Nerd Nation, think "Enemy" and "Bashers of the Environment." Associate an increase in criminal activity with these hoodlums; think that our neighborhood is being destroyed — not by straights and other "outsiders" — but by gay trashers who seemingly have nothing better to do. Nerd Nation, literally Clean Up YOUR Act or Go Back To New York.

Charles Gray
San Francisco

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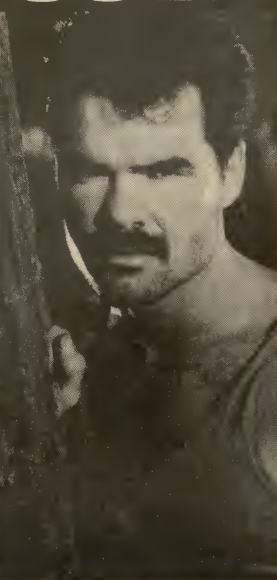
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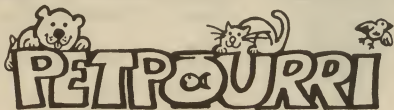
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LETTERS

A Change in Policy

The following letter was sent to Hal Of-fen in response to his letter, "The Cor-rect Term," which appeared in last week's B.A.R.

★ We received your letter of Sept. 7 in which you requested that the word "lover" be used as a term in our obituary notices.

After careful consideration, we agree with your very well-written letter and have decided to change our policy and let the word "lover" be used in obituary ads if used in the same context as father, husband, sister, etc.

While we spent a lot of time discussing this policy change, the decision was influenced by your letter. I'm sorry you had a bad experience with our newspaper when you tried to use the word, but I'm sure you'll agree the change will help others in the future.

David M. Beihoff
San Francisco Newspaper Agency
(Chronicle and Examiner)

PWAs Are Not Victims

★ I am incredulous that your front-page Index for the Oct. 4 issue contains the headline "AIDS victim Ryan White's grave has been vandalized in Indiana." AIDS victim? Are you really still using this term?

For years now, ever since they began to organize around their common oppression, people living with AIDS have worked to educate the public and media around their dis-ease. For quite some time, flyers were handed out to the media at demonstrations and press conferences, urging them to examine and change their vocabulary. One of the key messages (and the title of long-term survivor Louis Nassaney's new book): "I Am Not a Victim."

There is great meaning in one's choice of words. Victims are powerless; survivors are not. Victims arouse pity; survivors organize support.

Ryan White was not a victim. He was an incredibly articulate, brave, compassionate and loving teacher who helped open the hearts of millions. The same is true, on an equal or smaller scale, for virtually everyone I know who is living with, or has died from AIDS.

Please learn from the lives of these people and from the writings of such excellent B.A.R. columnists as Michael Botkin. You are an important source of information for the community. I trust you will reflect a higher consciousness in your future headlines and articles.

Jason Serinus
Oakland, CA.

Ed. Note: Point well-taken. ▼

Drunk With Power

★ The alcohol industry is spending over \$13 million to confuse voters about the alcohol tax initiative on the November ballot, so don't expect any clarity from the "full text" of Proposition 134 that's offered through the 800 number in their blitz of TV ads.

What you get is an unintelligible jumble of small print without spacing or headings, but with many diversionary side notes. The industry's helpful PR people don't want you to understand the basic reasons for this proposition:

"Alcohol abuse drains California of approximately \$13.6 billion annually in increased health care costs, higher crime rates, lost productivity, environmental damage and injuries from alcohol-related accidents and abuse. While this staggering cost is borne by all Californians, 67 percent of the alcohol is consumed by only 11 percent of the population." The nickel-a-drink tax is a fair and sensible way to fund new prevention and treatment programs, emergency medical care, community mental health services, domestic violence programs and DUI law enforcement.

While our governor and legislators have been using these programs as pawns in their annual budget battles, California's public health has slipped into critical condition. Proposition 134 removes these vital pieces from the Sacramento gameboard and assures per-capita increases equal to the state's future growth.

That makes good "common sense," but the alcohol industry doesn't care about that. Booze is big business, with lots of cash to divert your attention and they've only just begun.

Besides fighting 134, they're going to play both sides of Proposition 126 (their own alcohol tax plan, which they'd just as soon see defeated). But their ace-in-the-hole is Proposition 136, the

"ballot virus" to nullify all special tax initiatives that pass without two-thirds of the vote.

Beware of ads with the ID tag: "major funding from the Beer Institute, the Wine Institute and the Distilled Spirits Council." These folks are drunk with power.

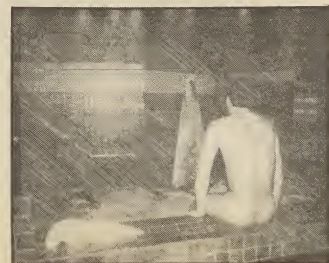
Jim Illig
San Francisco

Benighted Opinions

★ Your Sept. 6 article on the baths, informative and well-balanced, will serve to somewhat offset the deficit of knowledge about the baths among those who were not around in such long-ago and longed-for days — and nights. It was, however, disturbing to see, in the letters which the article elicited, that much of the same rot is still being written on the subject, probably by some of the same people, and that the impression is still given out that bathhouse = death, drugs, alcohol and that there is something inherently wrong with what's termed "multiple anonymous partners," and that, worse still, doors on rooms are inescapably synonymous with unsafe sex.

With so many benighted opinions still prevalent, it is unreasonable to expect any change in public policy for the duration, and even if a cure for HIV were to be discovered tomorrow, it would still be an uphill battle. In the meantime, who would want a bathhouse as envisioned by one letter writer, i.e., well-lit and with an "open-area design (no private rooms)"? Sounds like "near-beer." Where's the fantasy in that? Or the reality, for that matter?

Joseph P. Dudley
San Francisco



A Much-Needed Service

★ You are to be congratulated on your stand to reopen the baths in San Francisco. By publishing your editorial and the favorable responses to it in your Letters column, you are helping to make people aware that the baths should be reopened.

Ex-Mayor Feinstein did not stamp out male sexual activity with her closure of the baths. We all know that that activity is still flourishing in parks, alleys, dark movie theatres and restrooms. Neither she nor anyone else will ever be successful in putting an end to it. If she is elected governor of this state, we'll see no more baths operating anywhere in California.

There are now two bathhouses operating in the Bay Area and it is my opinion that they are offering a much-needed service to the community in that they have free education programs and distribute free condoms to their customers. Men are always going to have sex with each other if that is their choice, and it's much safer to frequent a well-managed bathhouse where the customer can shower and have sanitary surroundings than dirty, dark restrooms and unsafe parks.

I think it would be a good idea to circulate petitions in the Castro and other locations to back your worthy efforts.

Jack Farlowe
San Francisco

A Great Idea?

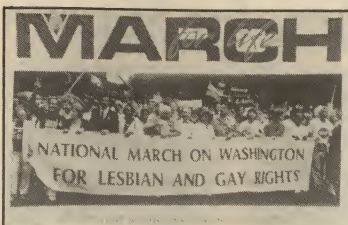
★ I think opening the baths again is a great idea. While we're at it, let's open more bars and porno theatres and let's take over every public park in the city and turn them into open-air jack-off clubs.

Why should we do something as homophobic as learning how to fall in love with each other when we can continue treating each other like slabs of meat in a butcher shop? After all, there aren't enough desperately lonely alcoholics in the Castro. We need more.

Isn't it interesting how the ones who complain that we're perceived as drugged-out sex zombies are the very ones who push that image?

David Alexander
San Francisco

LETTERS



We Stand Corrected

★ In the interest of keeping our history "straight," I am writing to correct Keith Clark in his reporting of National Coming Out Day in Marin (B.A.R., Sept. 13). Mr. Clark stated, "Coming Out Day started last year..." Actually, it started in 1988.

Also, there was no mention of the origin of this celebration. It falls every year on Oct. 11, the anniversary of the March on Washington in 1987. This was a high point in my life, as well as the lives of over 500,000 brothers and sisters.

I am enclosing a copy of a flier from the celebration I co-organized in Portland, Oregon, with my good friend Jay Brown (deceased), then editor of *Just Out* newspaper in Portland, as verification.

Fred Menard
Portland, OR

Montreal Attacks

The following letter was sent to Mayor Jean Dore, Montreal, Quebec, Canada:

★ I was shocked and furious when I read about the Montreal Police Department's attacks on lesbians and gay men. You have made yourself an accomplice to this violation of civil rights by refusing to discipline the officers involved.

Your silence implies your approval of these gross abuses of power and sends a message to your police force that they can continue to overstep the limits of their authority. I strongly urge you to do everything in your power to see to it that the lesbian and gay people of Montreal can live without fear of the police.

Brian Bringardner
San Francisco

Send Warriors a Message

★ It is my complete pleasure and privilege to offer for your delectation, utilization and dissemination, the mailing address and hotline of Larry Lea's Prayer Warriors.

Larry, Larry, quite contrary, as you know, plans to invade San Francisco on Halloween to drive out the demons! These, of course, are the demons that prevent religious bigotry from gaining a foothold in the Bay Area.

Please let the "warriors" know how you feel with a card or a phone call. I'm sure they'll be happy to hear from y'all: Prayer Warrior Hotline: 1-214-771-7000. Larry Lea, Rockwall, Texas 75087.

Michael S. Eckenrode
San Francisco

Stigmatizing Brethren

★ Ed Ashton's letter ("Member Against Member," Sept. 20) on HIV-negative men placing ads for other negative men shows an amazing blindness to the predicament of those he criticizes.

He writes that "perhaps they've already lost a significant other to AIDS and feel they can't go through it again" but decides that this is only "somewhat understandable." Only somewhat understandable, by whom?

Ed, please consider the situation of a friend of mine, who I will call Paul. In the past year, Paul has lost a cousin, an ex-lover and his best friend—all to AIDS. He was the primary caregiver for his friend and took a three-month leave from work to do it. You ask if a person would drop his best friend because he was positive. Paul would not and did not. Now he suffers the pain of the survivor and is in psychotherapy to deal with his despair and exhaustion.

Recently he met and briefly dated a man. He was beginning to grow fond of him, but when the man tested positive, Paul found that he couldn't open his heart further. He was at his emotional limit and felt he had to respect that fact if he was to preserve his sanity. He was anguished about it, and both men were hurt when he ended the relationship, but he simply could not begin a new

involvement which might end in more mourning. Is it people like Paul whom you casually dismiss as "emotionally immature" and accuse of "stigmatizing" their brothers? I ask you: Who is stigmatizing whom? Who is being insensitive to whose plight?

There are countless men in our community like Paul, and some of them are placing ads. Ed, if you are really concerned about not "isolating and alienating" members of our community please remember that the supercilious and condemnatory tone in your letter was directed at real flesh and blood people, who are also your "brethren."

Sean Laughlin
San Francisco

Know the Facts

★ We, the employees of the Parc Fifty Five Hotel, object to any organization or individual endorsing the boycott Local 2 is trying to impose on our hotel. Before you decide to support the boycott, you should know the facts.

The democratic process, under the Constitution, gives us the right to choose those who represent us. Local 2 is trying to bypass this process. We ask you to at least come into our hotel to talk to our fellow workers. You will find a majority are in favor of free elections and not the Cuban-type takeover Local 2 would like.

Local 2 is trying to make people believe there is a poisoned atmosphere in the hotel that would hinder a free election. If there is any poisoned atmosphere, it has been by the lies and half-truths the union is telling about our hotel.

This union has lost sight of the fact that the majority of our employees must want to be represented by Local 2 before there can be a contract. The real question is why Local 2 does not want an election. Is it because they have nothing to offer us and are only interested in the money in dues and trust fund accounts they will have access to? Come and talk to our employees before you make any judgments.

We also ask you not to blame our management for not signing a contract. We have asked them not to negotiate or sign any contract unless there is an election to determine if a majority does want to be represented by Local 2.

This letter is endorsed by over 300 employees of the Parc Fifty Five Hotel.

Tom Lauriola, Bartender
Parc Fifty Five Hotel
San Francisco

Art Abolitionist

★ Several months ago I attended a concert given by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. The program contained an appeal to write to Congress urging them to preserve funding for the National Endowment for the Arts. The chorus apparently gets government money and doesn't want it cut off.

Well, I say their government funding should be cut off. In a free society, the arts should be supported by voluntary contributions only, not by taxes extorted from the people. It's simply not right that the state should compel anyone to support private entertainment.

I will continue to support the chorus and I urge others to do likewise, but I cannot approve of the NEA and will urge its abolition, not its continuation.

Mark D. Fulwiler
San Francisco

Unusual Energy

★ No doubt the B.A.R. is aware of the following, but I'd just like to reiterate: Michael C. Botkin's articles are excellent. He's very thorough, writes intelligently, holds my interest and he knows his subject matter. I think he has that unusual kind of writing energy that stands out among others.

David Warda
San Francisco

Go For it, Richard!

★ The recent letter to Richard Simonelli brought tears to my eyes. I'm sure there are countless men and women out there who would give anything to have had that written to them by their family.

It made me realize how lucky I am to have the love and acceptance I have in my family. Thank you, Mom!

Greg Morgan
San Francisco

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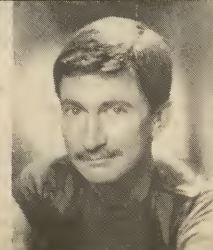
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WAYNE FRIDAY

Migden, Achtenberg for Supes

On Election Day, we have the rare opportunity to elect two exceptionally qualified women from our community to the Board of Supervisors.

Roberta Achtenberg is one of the nation's most respected civil rights attorneys and has been a leader in the fight to establish the rights of gays and lesbians to adopt children and to guard people with AIDS from discrimination.

A longtime fighter for the rights of women, gays and other minorities, Achtenberg is committed to working for a comprehensive city response to the still growing AIDS crisis, improving city domestic violence programs, and strengthening city policies to protect the environment.

As chair of the Mayor's Task Force on Family Policy, Achtenberg helped formulate city policy to advance progressive family issues. She has served on the board of directors of the United Way and the San Francisco Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation and is active in the Bay Area Civil Rights Coalition.

In 1990 Achtenberg was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

Roberta lives in Noe Valley with her partner, Judge Mary Morgan, and their 5-year-old son.

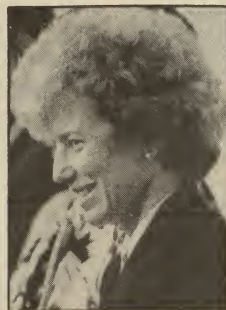
Carole Migden, a 41-year-old native of New York, brings with her a record of public service that few women — or men — could match. She clearly has the leadership skills and management experience that is badly needed on the Board of Supervisors.

Migden is a state commissioner on the Health Manpower Policy Commission and serves on the board of directors of the United Way. Migden holds a master's degree in clinical psychology, and has directed two community health agencies, managing both large staffs and budgets.

Her experience in designing and managing cost-effective health services is more important than ever in this era of budget cuts.

Migden is committed to restoring programs that have been cut and to improving services in vital areas such as AIDS treatment, family planning and women's health.

A respected Democratic Party worker, Migden is one of San Francisco's three representatives on the Democratic National Committee,



Carole Migden



Roberta Achtenberg

and for the past six years she has served as chair of the San Francisco County Democratic Party.

Migden gets things done. In a decade of community service, she has proven that she can get people of different views to work together toward common goals.

San Francisco voters will elect five members to the Board of Supervisors; two of those choices should be Roberta Achtenberg and Carole Migden. Both women will make excellent public servants, and both will make the gay and lesbian community proud. On Nov. 6 vote for both Migden and Achtenberg. We need them both in City Hall.

The Great Debate

When Dianne Feinstein and Pete Wilson met Oct. 7 in the first of two scheduled debates, the polls had the two in a dead heat, a virtual tie with 20 percent of the voters still undecided. So a lot was supposedly riding on the outcome.

Who won? I guess it probably depends on who you wanted to win, but from where I sat Feinstein edged Wilson on this one. At least, she looked better, and on television, appearance is a big part of the game.

While Feinstein respectfully referred to Wilson as "senator," Wilson repeatedly called her "Dianne" and twice referred to her as "the lady," giving him the appearance of being somewhat condescending.

The Republican often bordered on being smug and sarcastic, while Democrat Feinstein, often accused of being uninformed on state government, seemed to have a firm grasp of the issues.

Both Feinstein and Wilson successfully threaded their way through the minefield of the debate — a half hour of meaningless questions from reporters and a half hour of

give-and-take with each other.

Neither committed any major gaffes, and many who are grading the debate say that it was pretty much of a draw, while others give the edge to Feinstein.

Feinstein scored with a good line, when, noting that Wilson claims to be "pro-choice" but has voted in the U.S. Senate against funds for abortions, Feinstein snapped, "He's not pro-choice, he's multiple-choice."

Wilson surprised nearly everyone by publicly supporting Proposition 140, a ballot proposal that would place strict term limits on legislators. In the past, he has opposed such limits, but the polls show the idea winning with the voters. So his endorsement suggests to some political watchers that he privately thinks his election chances are in trouble. The two will debate again at KRON-TV studios in San Francisco on Oct. 18.

Justice in Cincinnati

When the jurors in the Robert Mapplethorpe obscenity trial in Cincinnati acquitted that city's Contemporary Arts Center and its director of the charge of pandering obscenity for showing "sexually explicit" photographs of Mapplethorpe's traveling art show last week, they sent a clear message to politicians like Sen. Jesse Helms, Rep. William Dannemeyer and others who have been hoping to make political gain on the so-called obscenity issue this year.

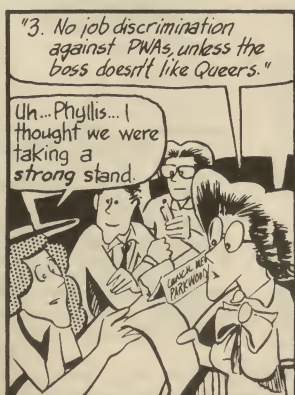
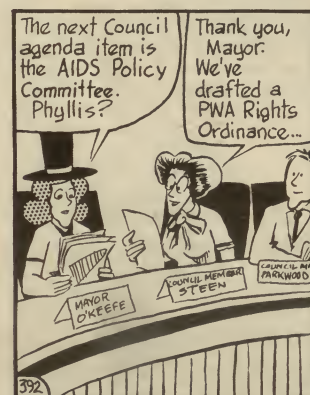
It took only two hours for the jurors to decide despite the prosecution's help from a judge who sided with them at every turn.

Incidentally, the foundation founded by the late Mapplethorpe pledged last week a \$3-million donation to the American Foundation for

(Continued on next page)

MURPHY'S MANOR

by Kurt Erichsen



The Kindness of Strangers

I don't usually write about what I did on my summer vacation — well, maybe sometimes — but so many people have asked about my trip to Romania that I could hardly ignore their requests without forsaking my civic responsibilities. I've already described the last few days — on an AIDS ward in Bucharest. This is how it all began.

"Never trust a stranger!" The words echoed in my head as the train pulled into Timisoara, the birthplace of the Romanian revolution. Yet what choice did I have? I was arriving after dark in the rain without a place to stay on my first night in an alien country. Hotel rooms, if any were to be had, were probably more than I could afford. Student dormitory rooms, which had been recommended to me, were certainly unavailable at that late hour. Like it or not, like Blanche DuBois, I was dependent on the kindness of strangers.

A few months earlier, the likelihood of a stranger offering assistance in Romania would have been remote. Romanians, under the iron grip of the despised Ceausescu, were forbidden by law to entertain foreigners in their homes. The vast majority, frightened by rumors that one-third of their fellow countrymen were informers for Securitate, the secret police, wouldn't even speak to outsiders.

I had heard, however, that since the revolution last December, all this had changed. Romanians were only too

delighted to establish contact with citizens of other countries, especially Americans. This certainly seemed to be the case in the Timisoara train station, where, no sooner had I started a hopeless conversation with a taxi driver who couldn't understand my 20-word Romanian vocabulary, a crowd gathered to lend a hand. One of them, a short, burly man, stepped forward and asked: "Parlez-vous Francais?"



"Un peu," I replied. In fractured French, I tried to explain my situation.

"Je compris," he answered.

Then, in equally fractured French, he offered a place to stay. I hesitated — who was this man? — but I had come to Romania partly for adventure, and adventures do not happen to the faint of heart.

As the taxi sped off into the dark, forbidding streets, I began to doubt my judgment. My concern increased when my host, whose name was Theo, said, not once but three times, "You are not afraid of

me?"

"Should I be?" I asked finally. "What do you do, anyway?"

"Ah, that is a question," answered Theo enigmatically.

Anxiety mounted to terror when we entered Theo's roach-infested apartment and I spotted a military uniform hanging from the door and a small box labeled "pistol" lying on the bed. "Oh my God, I've been kidnapped by Securitate!" I panicked.

Theo, noting my obvious discomfort, burst into a wide grin and proudly claimed, "Now you know what I do. I am a captain in the Army, a defender of the revolution."

The pistol, he explained, was not a handgun but a soldering gun, which he smuggled across the Yugoslavian border to supplement his meager income.

Vastly relieved, I settled back for a glass of palinca, the Romanian substitute for vodka, and an intense political discussion. Although I was exhausted, I talked with Theo until the wee hours of the morning. Hospitality, after all, imposes certain obligations.

The next morning, I set off on my own to orient myself in the city. The first order of business was to exchange money; the official rate was 21 lei to the dollar. I knew I could do far better than that on the black market, but the black market was risky. I might be cheated, robbed or even murdered, I was told, if I weren't careful.

Encouraged by my first contact with strangers, however, I thought I had little to fear. So when a colorfully-garbed peasant approached me on the main square and asked, "Marks? Dollars?" I said, "Sure," and began to bargain. The woman offered 100 lei to the dollar, five times the official rate. I readily agreed — but all I had with me was a \$50 bill.

"No problem," she implied as she motioned me into a nearby side street. There, she carefully counted out fifty 100-lei notes while I watched. Handing her the \$50 bill, I meant to double-check, but I was immediately surrounded by a dozen other people wanting to exchange as well. In any case, my partner in crime fled the moment she got her hands on my money.

Fighting off the crowds, I found a place to count my lei and I was shocked to discover a wad of ten-lei notes wrapped in a single hundred. Somehow, I had fallen for the oldest trick in the book. Without my noticing, the woman had pulled a sleight-of-hand and left me with 590 lei instead of 5,000. I was both enraged and mortified. Not only had I lost money, but I had proved myself the most gullible of tourists.

Later, I learned I was lucky. Black marketeers often exchange tissue paper rather than smaller bills. I also learned that I had traded with a gypsy, a member of a minority that has a notorious reputation in Romania for thievery. I, of course, knew nothing of this. I

thought I had discovered a financial angel of mercy.

At this point, I felt that the trust that had been so quickly established between myself and the Romanian people (in the person of Theo) had been tarnished by the nefarious actions of the gypsy.

Fortunately, fate came to the rescue disguised as Laszlo Moldovan, an engineering student at the Polytechnical Institute of Timisoara. I met Laszlo at the offices of *Forum Studentesco*, the student newspaper, where I thought I might find a likely candidate to assist a visiting journalist.

Laszlo proved himself a knight in shining armor. He not only offered a place to stay, he also rearranged his entire schedule to accommodate my needs.

In the evening we visited a political demonstration on the steps of the cathedral. Later that night, we attended my first — but not last — Romanian birthday party. And not once, in the course of the day, did Laszlo let me pay for a single thing, although two of my American dollars would have bought us dinner at the finest restaurant in town — such as it was.

When I left Timisoara the next morning, I left with telephone numbers in my address book where none had been before, and with the knowledge that if ever I was to return, I would find a helping hand. Of course, I might also find one reaching for my pockets, but what the hell. Even Blanche DuBois struck out once in a while. ▼

Friday

(Continued from page 10)

AIDS Research, founded by Elizabeth Taylor, to be used during a three-year period.

The money will come primarily from the sale of Mapplethorpe's photographs, some of which were put on trial in Cincinnati. The artist died of AIDS last year.

Politics, Louisiana Style

Don't let that recent visit to New Orleans fool you. Racism is alive and well in Louisiana. When a former wizard of the Klan can take 44 percent of the vote statewide (60 percent of all white votes cast), he — David Duke — has set himself up as a future candidate for governor.

Duke, a Republican state representative from a New Orleans suburb, conceded defeat, proclaiming that "we have not yet begun to fight." Political observers across the country see sure signs of renewed bigotry in American politics.

People & Politics

The California League of Conservation Voters has joined the Sierra Club in endorsing Dianne Feinstein for governor. And Milk Club President Bob Dockendorf wants to make it clear that the Harvey Milk Democrats do indeed support Arlo Smith for attorney general despite leaving him off their list of election recommendations they handed out at the Castro Street Fair.

Money Woes: Jerry Falwell, who last year shut down the

Moral Majority, the religious political organization he founded in 1980, ceased publication of the *Fundamentalist Journal* and sold his private airplanes, all because he claims donations to his ministry's *FamilyNet* satellite network have dropped drastically, now claims further economic woes.

Falwell announced this week that *The Old Time Gospel Hour*, the weekly church broadcast that helped propel him into national prominence, is dropping most of its broadcast outlets.

Jerry claims it is because he wishes to cut back on his personal activities, but one source close to the Lynchburg, Va., headquarters says, "In the aftermath of Jim Bakker and Jimmy Swaggart, this business has fallen on hard times."

And there it was — right in print — San Francisco's own Archbishop John Quinn taking offense at the *Examiner's* editorial endorsing domestic partners (Prop. K). It seems the Archbishop was annoyed at a bit of the truth when the *Examiner* predicted that opponents of the legislation "will have to argue from outdated, narrow-minded, self-serving views of morality. They will call themselves religious, but theirs is a religion of hate."

Apparently a bit of the truth hurts — even in the high chairs of the Catholic Church. Friends and supporters of assessor candidate Richard Hongisto are holding a fundraiser/reception for their candidate, Oct. 16 at the Tap Room, 1151 Folsom, 5:30-7:30, \$35 donation. Call 664-1120 for information. ▼

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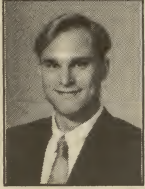
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STATE NEWS

FBI Chief Ordered to Testify In Gay Agent's Lawsuit

by Dennis Conkin

FBI Director William Sessions must declare under penalty of perjury whether he was involved in the decision to revoke the security clearance of a gay FBI agent.

The order was made by U.S. Magistrate Wayne Brazil Oct. 4 in U.S. District Court in San Francisco.

However, in the ruling that attorney Richard Gayer called "very disappointing," Brazil declined to decide on Buttino's motion to formally question FBI officials about their investigation of him.

He referred the motion, including demands for access to the FBI investigation of Buttino, back to U.S. District Court Judge Eugene Lynch.

"He also said that a government motion for summary judgment to win the case without a trial was premature," said Gayer.

Buttino was fired earlier this year after his security

clearance had been revoked following an anonymous note to the FBI that disclosed his sexual orientation.

According to Gayer, a "social note" that Buttino had written in response to a personal advertisement was turned over to the FBI and the same, or a similar note also sent to his parents.

"It was sent anonymously. He doesn't know who sent it. It's pretty vicious," Gayer told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The person who sent the note just signed his initials, W.I. There's a copy of it in the file, but it's absolutely unavailable to us," he said.

Gayer said that Buttino was informally asked about the note in October 1988 by the FBI, but that he denied he wrote it because he didn't think his personal life was the agency's business.

However, according to Gayer, when the FBI later called him in for questioning, Buttino acknowledged that he

had written the note and disclosed that he was gay before he was formally questioned about the matter.

On Nov. 2, Lynch is expected to set a date for a hearing on the motion to grant Buttino the right to question FBI officials and obtain the investigative file on himself.

Lynch is expected to grant Buttino's motion to expand his suit into a class-action sexual orientation discrimination lawsuit on behalf of all gays and lesbians who have experienced discrimination in the agency.

Buttino is a 20-year counterespionage veteran and organized crime expert with the agency. He has received numerous commendations and awards during his career.

The FBI has had a long history of anti-gay practices and policies, including harassment and persecution of gay activists since its inception. ▼

GLAAD/Sac Co-Chairs Resign

by M.R. Covino

SACRAMENTO— The Sacramento chapter of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation held a hastily called meeting Oct. 3 at which co-chairs Tammy Smith and the Rev. John Rodgers resigned.

The meeting was called on the eve of a conference of New York and California GLAAD chapters which was held in Los Angeles the following weekend.

According to a GLAAD-Sac board member, the chapter's woes were an agenda item at the Los Angeles conference.

The board member, John Carlson, called the Wednesday meeting and asked that the resignations be acted upon immediately.

"I'm going to that conference and I'll be asked to explain about the situation in Sacramento," Carlson said. "I want to be in a position to tell them that our major problems are in the past and that we're moving on in a new and positive direction."

Rodgers, a self-proclaimed minister, had recently been the subject of news stories which revealed an admitted history of misrepresentation including his education and ministerial credentials.

Rodgers' letter of resignation stated, "I have enjoyed the many opportunities of helping the Sacramento lesbian and gay community. However, it seems that God is directing me to take on more responsibility in His church."

Later in the letter he wrote, "The leaders of any or-

ganization can lose his/her effectiveness after such an attack as was in (the) papers." Smith's letter of resignation was not available.

Interim co-chairs elected by the board of directors were Judith Ludwick, a former reporter who is currently a grants consultant, and Bill Heffner, an accountant.

The pair will serve from 60 to 90 days, after which there will be an election of officers. During the transition period, the two will work to increase membership.

Ludwick said, "We'll work within the community to involve people in joining and assisting the organization. In 60 to 90 days, the organization will be 'based,' and GLAAD's future relationships with media will be on a positive level." ▼

Cadet

(Continued from page 1)

payments.

The Navy, unbelievably, also sent Laska's parents a letter informing them that a judgment would be sought against them for the funds if payments were not forthcoming.

In April, U.S. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) harshly criticized President Bush for government policies that forbid lesbians and gays from military service.

"People do this in his name and he could overturn them in a second. I'm disappointed but not surprised. And then to go and shake-down the parents? Shame on George Bush. This is the commander-in-chief doing this and it's just outrageous," Frank told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Laska realized that he was gay in 1986, during the second year of the program at the University of Pennsylvania.

After experiencing harassment because of his sexual



Peter Laska

orientation and a growing awareness of military homophobia, Laska resigned his commission but was placed on leave and then terminated from the program.

"His case is extremely important because the Navy at this point denies that there are any outstanding situations where they've attempted to recoup tuition," Pachter told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Peter had a fine record at school. Nobody should have to repay the government because of the government's outrageous treatment of gays and lesbians."

Pachter said the government had "no basis" to try to recoup money from Laska's parents and denounced the attempt as a "questionable tactic."

"It's really terrific," Laska said of the renewed interest in his case. "I'm a lot more confident about my case."

According to Paul Di Donato, NGRA legal director, Laska's case "is a classic case of anti-gay discrimination by the military."

Di Donato said that beyond the interest in assisting Laska, the public policy issues in his case are significant. He said that the Navy would be pressured through members of Congress, if it attempts to take action against Laska.

"It's a really hot issue. Peter's case is very interesting. His parents are working class and the only option he had for a college degree was to join NROTC. He was a good student. He was forced to resign and was discriminated against because he was gay. It's absurd, irrational and outrageous anti-gay discrimination," Di Donato said. ▼

Many Vetoed Bills Will Be Resubmitted

by M.R. Covino

SACRAMENTO — As the dust settles after the record-breaking explosion of vetoes invoked by Gov. George Deukmejian, insiders are busily assessing the amount of damage done to social service and health care programs.

And they are determining which bills will be revived and resubmitted to the new governor in the next session.

Among the bills being evaluated are:

— Senate Bill 2699 (Sen. Barry Keene, D-Eureka), which was sponsored by the California Association of AIDS Agencies and would have created a Regional HIV Service Network pilot project that would allow counties to implement a network plan for case management.

The bill was vetoed but will probably be resubmitted next term.

— Senate Bill 1588 (Sen. David Roberti, D-Hollywood), which would have required the state Department of Mental Health to initiate a statewide mental health program for persons with AIDS, ARC and asymptomatic HIV positives.

The bill, which would have appropriated \$4 million, failed in Senate Rules Committee.

— Assembly Bill 2955 (Jackie Speier, D-South San Francisco), would have established a three-year pilot project to provide short-term respite care services to chronic or ter-

Two bills that would allow access to experimental and investigational drug treatments were signed.

— Senate Bill 1592 (Sen. Nicholas Petris, D-Oakland), which would have appropriated \$750,000 a year for three years from the tobacco tax fund to permit an Alameda County provider to deliver comprehensive services to Medi-Cal eligible alcohol and drug dependent pregnant women, mothers and their children. This bill was vetoed.

— Senate Bill 1829 (Sen. Diane Watson, D-Los Angeles), which would have allowed the Health Officer of San Francisco to take all appropriate measures to prevent the spread of life-threatening infection irrespective of existing laws.

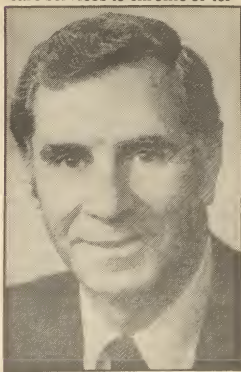
The bill specifically excluded many powers including quarantine, isolation and non-consensual testing.

The bill never mentioned needle exchange but allowed the development of a new program for a 12-month period. The bill failed in the Senate.

Two bills that would allow access to experimental and investigational drug treatments were signed. They are:

— Assembly Bill 3138 (William Filante, R-San Raphael), which expands the use of AIDS Vaccine Research and Development Grant Funds to include continued research and development of a vaccine once its clinical testing phase has been approved by the FDA.

— Assembly Bill 4031 (John Vasconcellos, D-San Jose), which modifies the AIDS Clinical Trials Testing Fund, AIDS Vaccine Victims Compensation Fund, and AIDS Vaccine Guarantee Purchase Fund and will allow those monies to be appropriated for AIDS vaccine clinical trials (with approval by the Food and Drug branch of the state Department of Health Services). ▼



Gov. George Deukmejian

minally ill children and their families in home or hospital settings.

State Brief

Black Named LA AIDS Chief

Longtime AIDS activist Phill Wilson will become the new AIDS Coordinator for the city of Los Angeles this November. Wilson, 34, co-chair of the national Black Gay & Lesbian Leadership Forum, is replacing Dave Johnson who had held the position since the office was created almost two years ago. Johnson is leaving for personal reasons. Wilson comes to the job at a time when one of the fastest growing populations infected with the HIV virus is gay men of color. Wilson believes the reason for the rise is because "no one has really cared. The traditional gay institutions that have dealt with the AIDS epidemic have not had the capabilities of reaching those men and the traditional people of color institutions that have been dealing with AIDS have not cared about the gay men in their community." The health care for all of Los Angeles is overseen by the Los Angeles County Department of Health. However, two years ago community-based AIDS activists and members of the Mayor's Office created the AIDS Coordinator's Office to enable the city to play an expanded role in AIDS care.

—Karen Ocamb



Disneyland security guard (center) who was overheard making anti-gay remark.

Gays, Lesbians Dance at D-Land

Lesbians and gay men danced with partners of the same sex on Sept. 15, 10 years after two gay men were ejected from Disneyland for dancing together.

Andres Exler, 29, of Palm Springs, said the same sex dancing was in commemoration of the 10-year anniversary of Disneyland ejecting him and a male dance partner from the Tomorrowland Terrace on Sept. 13, 1980, after disco dancing together. The two men sued the park and in 1984 won a lawsuit which effectively

reversed Disneyland's 1957 policy barring same-sex dancing.

On Sept. 15, 12 male couples and two female couples danced for 30 minutes at the Tomorrowland Terrace to the live band "Discovery," which played pop 40 music.

The couples participated in both fast and touch dancing without any confrontations from guests or park security.

However, while the couples were dancing, a Disneyland security officer ("Cheryl" — Badge No. 69) was overheard

telling park guests: "There was a lawsuit 10 years ago; I hope they all die from AIDS — they are going to die from AIDS anyway..."

Exler said that the comment from the on-duty officer was totally inexcusable and should not be tolerated by Disneyland officials.

Exler has demanded in writing that Disneyland publicly apologize for the officer's offensive and derogatory comment, but Disneyland officials refuse to return his phone calls. ▼

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'KS Cure Drug' to Begin Testing Gallo Partially Cleared, But Faces NIH Probe

by David Gilden

The National Institutes of Health announced last week that it would open a full-scale investigation into the manner in which one of its principal scientists, Dr. Robert Gallo, discovered the human immunodeficiency virus.

HIV is the microbe generally considered responsible for triggering AIDS.

This is the latest development in a controversy going back to 1984. At the time, Gallo's article in *Science* magazine describing his discovery and culture of HIV was immediately challenged by the prominent French scientist Luc Montagnier.

Montagnier claimed that his lab was the first to isolate HIV and that the strain of the virus Gallo worked with actually came from his own lab in Paris.

Subsequent genetic analysis did show that the two strains were indeed identical, but Gallo responded that he had studied other strains as well. Gallo's associates supposedly found those strains in American patients.

A preliminary NIH investigation has absolved Gallo of completely stealing the work of Montagnier's group.

The question remains as to which HIV strain Gallo's lab used to develop its patented

HIV blood test.

At stake are tens of millions of dollars of licensing royalties, which are now shared by the two scientists and their governments under a 1987 agreement.

The question of whether the Gallo group misappropriated the French team's work, merely confirming in American subjects what had already been found in Paris, is an academic and financial controversy that has little direct bearing on AIDS research. It does cast doubt on Gallo's recent work, though.

Last winter the researcher garnered wide publicity by announcing that he had developed a cure for AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma with a Japanese company.

Gallo was later forced to partially retract his statement, causing speculation that he was just trying to deflect attention from his troubles.

Gallo's subsequent silence on the KS cure heightened such rumors. Now, however, it has been revealed that the holdup on the anti-KS compound was due to production problems in Japan.

Those roadblocks have now been overcome, and animal studies of the drug, which so far has been tried out only in the test tube, are due to commence this fall. ▼

World Briefs

Israeli Anti-Discrimination Bill

The Society for the Protection of Personal Rights, the lesbian and gay rights organization of Israel, has successfully introduced a bill in the Knesset, Israel's parliament, to outlaw discrimination in the workplace based on sexual orientation. SPPR also reports that their newly purchased premises are being renovated to enable the opening of a social club and drop-in center. Three new special interest groups have been formed, including a Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays organization, a Lesbian Feminist group, and a support group for lesbian and gay parents. The first hostel, specifically for gays and lesbians, has been opened despite the concerted efforts of the Tel Aviv Municipality to prevent it. It is located at 74 King George St., Tel Aviv. ▼

Latin American Gay Groups Unite

Four experienced lesbian and gay activist organizations have joined together to organize the 1st Regional Latin American Conference of the International Lesbian and Gay Association to be held June 14-15, 1991, in Guadalajara, Mexico. The organizing committee includes Grupo Orgullo Homosexual de Liberacion and Grupo de Lesbianas Patlatonalli, both of Guadalajara. The Movimiento Homosexual de Lima of Lima, Peru, is in charge of contacting all lesbian and gay groups in Latin America. The Comunidad Homosexual de Argentina is in charge of preparing the agenda to be presented to the regional conference in Guadalajara. The regional conference next June will be followed immediately by the first Annual ILGA World Conference ever to be held in the Third World. The six-day 13th ILGA World Conference will be held in Guadalajara starting June 16. The organizing committee requests all groups worldwide who want to help them, to please start organizing benefits and seeking donations, to help cover travel costs for Third World delegates, especially from Latin America, as well as actual conference costs. For more information, contact the ILGA Information Secretariat, c/o Antenne Rose/FWH, rue du Marche au Charbon 81, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgium. —John Hubert

Israeli Judge Rules in Favor of Gay Bar

A down-and-out upscale shopping mall in Tel Aviv lost a court battle in August to prohibit a gay pub from opening on the premises. Management of the Gan Ha'ir mall had signed a contract with Eitan Horowitz for the pub Piccolo before learning that it would cater to homosexuals. When management found out, they posted guards at the site, changed the locks to the doors, and cut off the electricity, according to the *Jerusalem Post*. Horowitz took the mall to court and with the help of The Society for the Protection of Personal Rights, the national gay-rights group, convinced Judge Haim Eilat to uphold the contract. SPPR collected 32 signatures from other mall renters supporting the gay pub. Said SPPR organizer 'Mark', "Generally gay people attract upscale shopping; they certainly don't repel it." In handing down the ruling, Judge Eilat also declared that discrimination against homosexuals in business transactions is illegal in Israel. This was news to gay activists, who only saw gay sex decriminalized in 1988. Israel does not have an explicit national gay-rights law. "Now Israeli businessmen realize that we have enough class to go to court and win," Horowitz said.

—Rex Wockner

Soviet Gay Paper Selling Out

The International Lesbian Information Service Summer Newsletter reports that *Tema*, the Soviet newspaper for gays and lesbians, prints 10,000 copies each issue and all are sold out by street vendors in Moscow, Leningrad and Riga within a few days. "Tema," in Russian slang, is "being in the theme," which means being involved with gay life. *Tema* is produced by the Moscow Union of Lesbians & Gay Men and they can be contacted c/o Kalinin Roman U., Do Vostrebomania, SU-103009 Moscow K-9, U.S.S.R. —John Hubert

Walesa's Anti-Gay Remarks Denied

by Rex Wockner

Lech Walesa's press secretary told the *Warsaw Gay News* in September that Walesa did not make anti-gay comments at April's national Solidarity Party convention.

Andrzej Drzycki said, "We have looked through the records of the Second Conference of Solidarnosc Trade Union, and we have not found anything like that."

"By the way," Drzycki added, "there were so many foreign journalists at the conference. Don't you think they would immediately pick it up if Walesa said something so stupid. ... The Solidarity Movement is not declaring for discrimination of any social minority."

"We have looked through the records and we have not found anything like that."

Drzycki speculated that Polish gay activists who reported Walesa's alleged anti-gay remarks fabricated the story "as a way to get attention from the homosexual community and public opinion from the U.S. and Western Europe."

Several members of Lambda Poland broke the story in July at an International Lesbian and Gay Association conference in Stockholm. They said that Walesa, speaking at the Solidarity convention, promised to eliminate homosexuals and drug users from society if he is elected president.

Confronted with Drzycki's strong denial, Ryszard Kisiel, editor of the Gdansk gay newspaper *Filo* and the key source for the original report, admitted that he did not hear Walesa's alleged remark himself.

"A close friend of mine heard this statement, and I was told it was on TV as well," Kisiel said. In Stockholm, Kisiel had told reporters: "We heard it ourselves. We were there. One of our writers heard it himself. He was there."

At press time, other Lambda members who attended the ILGA conference were not available for comment. *Warsaw Gay News* reported that it has been unable "to reach anybody who has either heard (Walesa's alleged remarks) on the radio or seen them on TV. Without clear proof," the newspaper stated, "we can't accuse him of public homophobia."

But the newspaper added, "Mr. Walesa is a person with Catholic and patriarchal values, so we can hardly expect him being in favor of gay and lesbian rights."

U.S. gay activists and mainstream newspapers have demanded that Walesa publicly state his positions on homosexuality and gay and lesbian rights.

Walesa's telephone number is 011 48 58 38 43 03. ▼

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Anti-Gay U.S. Rep Solicits Gay Cash

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON — The nation's largest gay and lesbian political action committee has issued a sharp rejection to a request for funds from one of the country's most anti-gay legislators.

Staffers at the Human Rights Campaign Fund were surprised Oct. 1 to receive a solicitation for funds from Rep. Robert Dornan (R-Calif.), one of the most vehement opponents of gay and lesbian civil rights in the U.S. House.

Seeking a contribution to the member's fall re-election campaign from the gay and lesbian group, the solicitation from Dornan Finance Director Robin Dornan Griffin called the congressman a "conservative, pro-business, pro-free enterprise ... proven winner" who is fully expected to win this year.

Promoting Dornan's 100 percent ratings from such groups as the American Conservative Union and the Chamber of Commerce, the letter praised the congressman for urging "caution in dealing with (Mikhail) Gorbachev, (Nelson) Mandela and others who seek our support, i.e. money."

Championing the conservative lawmaker's staunch support of military funding, the letter boasts that Dornan is affectionately called "B-1 Bob" and now "B-2 Bob" for his backing of funding for the B-1 and B-2 bombers.

"Please let me hear from you today regarding (a) general election contribution from (the) Human Rights Campaign Fund," the letter concluded, "Thank you."



Robert Dornan

Staffers at the gay and lesbian political group, however, were not so inclined, firing off a quick rejection of the solicitation.

"Thank you so much for writing and requesting a financial contribution from the Human Rights Campaign Fund for Congressman Bob Dornan," wrote Tim McFeeley, executive director. "I always wondered why Congressman Dornan was so interested in lesbian and gay people. Now I understand — he wants our money."

Dornan, a leading spokesman for the far right, has joined his Orange County, Calif., colleague, Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Fullerton), in leading the charge to block a bill that included a federal ban on AIDS-related discrimination, and another that mandated the collection of statistics on hate motivated crimes, including anti-gay crimes.

The Garden Grove Republican has also opposed increases in AIDS funding, supported limiting the District of Columbia's gay and lesbian rights law, and has led conservative Republicans in his home state to limit participation by gay and lesbian groups in the state Republican Party.

Dornan has also served as a spokesman for anti-gay forces in the national media, including appearances on ABC's *Nightline* and the syndicated *Donahue* show.

Cincinnati Museum, Director Cleared in Mapplethorpe Trial

by Rex Wockner

A jury of working-class suburbanites found the Contemporary Arts Center and director Dennis Barrie not guilty of violating local obscenity laws Oct. 5.

It was believed to be the first attempted prosecution of an art museum in American history. Barrie faced up to a year in prison and a \$2,000 fine for displaying the work of the late gay photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, who died of AIDS complications in 1989. The museum faced a \$10,000 fine.

The Mapplethorpe show consisted of 175 photographs, seven of which were deemed in violation of contemporary community obscenity stan-

dards by the Cincinnati Police Vice Squad.

The museum was charged with "pandering obscenity" for five photos that depicted gay sexuality and with illegal use of minors in nudity-related material for two photos of naked children.

In closing arguments, Barrie's attorney, H. Louis Sirkin, quoted the late President John F. Kennedy, saying: "Society must set the artist free to follow his vision, wherever it takes him. We must never forget that art is not a form of propaganda. It is a form of truth. The highest duty of the writer, the composer, the artist, is to remain true to himself."

It took the eight-person jury only two hours to agree.

As he left the courtroom, Barrie called the decision "a great day for this city, a great day for America." Barrie continued, "We did something very important today. We stood up for the First Amendment."

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Speech is understood to encompass non-verbal expression, such as painting, photography and other artistic endeavors. ▼

First Lady Views Names Quilt Panels

by Allen White

Mrs. Barbara Bush viewed a panel from the NAMES Project Oct. 5 in the White House. Mrs. Mireille Key and her daughters Simone and Maya brought with them the panel they had made in memory of their husband and father, Robert Key, who died of AIDS in 1989.

Officially described as a "photo opportunity," the circumstances surrounding the visit indicate the political fears that continue to surround the subject of AIDS at the White House.

The NAMES Project was told they would have 15 minutes to be with Mrs. Bush. The stated purpose was to have pictures taken of Mrs. Bush with a panel from the

Quilt. Though White House photographers were present, it is significant that no photographers from the NAMES Project were allowed. Except for one photo released to a national news service, no additional photos have been released.

David Lemos, the NAMES Project executive director, said, "We had a great opportunity to talk to her. What we accomplished was we actually got to show Barbara Bush a panel. I think the opportunity for her to actually touch a panel and meet the person who made it has made a difference. We could write letters, we could make phone calls, but frankly the best thing we could do was to bring a panelmaker to her and say, 'This is what it is



Barbara Bush

about'."

At the meeting Mrs. Bush acknowledged she had seen the Quilt last year when it was displayed across the street from the White House. Her vantage point was a window in the White House.

Last year, President Bush also saw the NAMES Project

(Continued on page 23)

Flag

(Continued from page 1)

Flag to fly over a state capitol in the United States.

"It was gratifying to deal with an open-minded legislator who is willing to take the risk of criticism and reprisal — especially from the right-wing fundamentalist contingent," Topper said.

Marks recently made an appearance before the State Board of Education supporting the efforts of Project 21 and urging the inclusion of gays and lesbians in history and social science textbooks.

"This is an important statement on coming out here in California," Topper said. "It sends a message to all constituencies that we're as much a part of this society as any other minority or cultural group. It brings the message home that we're not succumbing to challenges or opposition and will be victorious through our truth. The raising of that flag raises our visibility and it will enable people to be freer in acknowledging who they are." ▼

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Co-Founder of Coming Out Day Pushes Gays to Be Positive

by M.R. Covino

Gay clinical psychologist Rob Eichberg, co-founder in 1977 with the late David Goodstein of the "Advocate Experience" (now just "The Experience"), co-founder of Coming Out Day and author of the new book, *Coming Out: An Act of Love*, sat back and sipped coffee while answering questions for the Bay Area Reporter recently.

B.A.R.: What does your Experience workshop focus on?

Eichberg: Well what I focus on is for people to function powerfully with their lives and in their lives. I don't focus specifically on HIV infection.

So what I do in terms of people being powerful is to look at what is going on in their lives and that means EVERYTHING — some people have rotten childhoods — and you have a choice as to how you deal TODAY with the rotten childhood you had in the past. You can keep beating yourself up and beating your family up for it — drinking yourself into a stupor and being a miserable person and hiding out and staying in the closet and all of those things are options.

And you can also go on and pursue a vision and create your life the way you want it to be NOW and not have that past determine all the decisions you make today

and in the future.

So that really opens up the door to look at what you want to do in the future, what it is you want to be doing NOW — and a lot of people because of their pasts limit themselves, a lot of people because of something that happens in their lives today, a car accident, or HIV infection, a loss of a job, limit themselves.



There are other ways of looking at those same crises.

B.A.R.: Would you apply that focus to HIV?

Eichberg: "I don't say to people there must be a reason why you have it.

While I'm metaphysically oriented I'm very pragmatically oriented. While there's a reason HIV is here, there are many — but certainly why it's prevalent in the gay male community is we adopted fucking, essentially, as our banner.

And we didn't adopt as the purpose of the GAY MOVE-

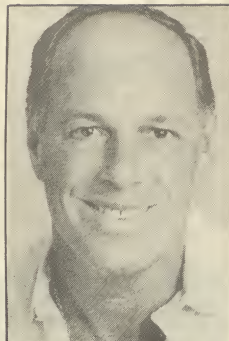
MENT to function as whole and complete and powerful adults. Now, that's NOT why AIDS came about but when we discovered there was an epidemic it was really very difficult to get people to suddenly have to look at their ability to stop transmitting the virus. We all had that difficulty because we kept staying on the agenda that we have to keep being free to do what we want to do.

And it was out of that awareness that a group of (Experience) graduates in San Francisco started the Stop AIDS Project. So what pleases me is that I see people take this work out into the world in a variety of ways that's very productive and I see a lot of people who are HIV infected, as am I, who aren't giving up and allowing that to determine the course of their life; they're still determining it themselves.

B.A.R.: Is 'coming out' a part of this workshop?

Eichberg: Absolutely! This is about being powerful and being powerful is about fundamentally trusting yourself to tell the truth and then deal with the consequences of the truth. So at a very fundamental level, we can't function powerfully until we're willing to be honest with people.

And since sexuality is the major thing people hold back from others — it blocks our functioning powerfully in the world. It's pretty clear that people who don't feel that



Rob Eichberg

they're deserving — don't have sense of their own self-worth and self-esteem won't make demands in terms of what they want and if you don't make demands you're not going to get it.

So once again you end up, if you don't feel deserving in the first place, you end up not putting yourself out on the line, not telling people what you require or what you want — you don't get it and that validates that you weren't deserving in the first place.

The majority of people weren't taught self-esteem and self-esteem is a major issue. Most people don't take personal responsibility and political and social responsibility unless they have a strong sense of their self-esteem and their self-worth.

B.A.R.: How did these issues affect women in your workshops?

Eichberg: Fundamentally the stuff we're dealing with is the same whether you're a man or a woman. Then there are those people who come in with their own political or

feminist agenda.

So I can never predict who the people are in the group. But they end up examining their issues and when your work is about being a human being then people around you drop their stereotypes about what it means to be in a male or female body and that also is important. What I'm really working with a lot between the book and Coming Out Day and the workshops is allowing people to be honest about who they are, to show our diversity as people and it seems to me that's the way we dispel stereotypes.

Stereotypes are based on only identifying one particular set of behaviors and giving it some label. So what it was to be gay or to be lesbian was defined by the stereotypical behavior that people who were out or who couldn't hide were the role models for.

We all know this is a much more diverse community. It's OK to be tough and it's OK to be soft and that's true for men and women. It's OK to dress in leather and it's OK to dress in jeans and it's OK to dress in skirts and dresses and THAT'S also true for men and women. I'd like people to be out so we can demonstrate to the world who we actually are.

B.A.R.: What are you "here" to do?

My life is about the overall vision. I guess you can tell I'm very passionate about this, but there is no way that it will not be manifest by the year 2000 — there is absolutely going to be the reality that it's OK to be lesbian and gay — and then it becomes a non-issue. Not just because I say so but because there are a lot of people working on it. ▼

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An artist's rendering of the proposed library.

Model of New Main Library Unveiled

by Allen White

Steven Coulter recently unveiled the scale model of the new San Francisco Main Library, which will be located at Grove and Hyde streets.

His announcement is important, not only because the library completes the blueprint for the Civic Center, but also because Coulter is another member of the city's gay community who has risen to a position of significant civic responsibility.

Coulter is president of the Library Commission, and it will be his commission that will oversee the construction of this new facility.

The new main library will be one of the largest buildings in the Civic Center. It has been designed, the architects say, to forge a vital link between the "contemporary

city" along Market Street and the "public heart" of the city's Civic Center.

"How often do you have a chance to create a great new cultural institution?" asked Coulter. "How often does the community have a chance to realize a dream? We hope you will join in the effort."

Mayor Art Agnos said at the unveiling that the library would be the focus of the largest public/private sector project in the city. He noted the bond issue of 1988, which provided the funds for the building, did not include furnishings, equipment or special-purpose rooms.

A computerized public access catalog listing of the entire library collection is a planned special feature.

"The library's state-of-the-art design and services should

set a new standard for civic libraries around the world in the 21st century," said city librarian Kenneth Dowlin.

Coulter will also sit on the board of the Library Foundation, which plans to raise an estimated \$30 million in private funds for the superior equipment and facilities needed to complete the library.

"The new main library must and shall be an innovator, a champion of intellectual freedom, a new cultural institution as great as its neighbors, the symphony, opera, ballet and the Asian Art Museum," Coulter said.

Coulter also said the present main library building would be taken over by the Asian Art Museum. The construction of the new library is scheduled to begin in about a year, with the opening slated sometime in 1995. ▼

Protest

(Continued from page 1)

tween the emergence of resistant virus strains in the body and the loss of a person's response to AZT has not been definitely established.

It is hoped that using AZT, ddI and ddC in some type of low-dose combination will stave off both the development of resistant viruses as well as nullify the side effects of greater amounts of any single drug.

Early studies have indicated that combinations really do work very well, raising hopes that many of those now threatened with AIDS can be kept healthy indefinitely.

Compound Q also figures in these multi-drug schemes. A recent Project Inform "town meeting" concerning new developments in AIDS therapies witnessed a succession of testimonials by individual HIVers experimenting with multiple drug regimens. All reported marked improvements in their conditions.

Previously, many had been doing poorly on AZT alone.

A supplementary point raised was that ddC is now available through underground sources at a cost of \$400 for a year's supply, much cheaper than AZT.

In an interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, Project Inform Director Martin Delaney agreed that combination therapy "could open up a whole new era in the epidemic in which it is possible to hold the line on AIDS until effective cures are developed."

Meanwhile, "drugs now

under study can't restore a severely damaged immune system, only stop the decline. Each passing day without availability of these drugs leads to irreversible damage to thousands of people whose time on AZT has run out."

This was a reference to complaints that early access programs established by ddI and ddC's manufacturers are so restrictive that the drugs are available only to the rich, whose doctors pay close personal attention to them and are willing to complete the programs' extensive paper work.

Before getting either drug, HIVers must document that they are already very ill and that AZT is not helping them.

Expanded access is only intended as a last resort for the desperate. It is not for those who are trying to avoid getting sick by trying out combination therapies, treatment activists further complain.

G'dali Braverman, one of those arrested during the protest, said that the handcuffs represented people with HIV's imprisonment to AZT.

Seated before the Federal Building doors he said, "Fuck you, FDA — we've died long enough. We're not leaving until someone from the FDA comes down to the door and tells us why ddI and ddC have not already been approved."

Delaney, whose organization originated the accelerated licensing proposal, watched the boisterous event approvingly.

"I'm glad that ACT UP has supported the idea," he said. "This is one of the best demonstrations of its kind

(Continued on page 23)



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Women with AIDS Finding Limited Access to Health Care

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON — Thousands of American women with HIV die each year of a variety of medical complications without ever being counted as having AIDS by the federal Centers for Disease Control.

And because of the government's restrictive definition, many of those women cannot access government health care because they do not qualify as being disabled.

That's the message that approximately 100 AIDS activists from various chapters of ACT UP brought to the steps of the Department of Health and Human Services Oct. 2 in staging a loud protest against the department and its agencies.

Specifically, the demonstrators targeted the Social Security Administration for denying disability benefits to women with HIV who don't fall into the CDC's definition of AIDS.

Chanting "Health care is a right, not just for the male and white," the throng circled in front of the Hubert Humphrey Building to call attention to the growing number of women with HIV who are dying without ever being classified as having AIDS.

Gwendolyn S. King, commissioner of Social Security at HHS, issued a lengthy response to the activists' charges, describing the methods the SSA uses to determine if a person qualifies for monthly payments and insist-

ing that the CDC definition is not the only yardstick used to rule if a person with HIV qualifies as being disabled.

"It has always been recognized that the Centers for Disease Control and the SSA use the CDC's definition of AIDS for different purposes," the statement read. "The CDC defines AIDS for epidemiological surveillance and other purposes. ... SSA and (State Disability Determination Services) are not limited to the CDC definition and can and do make presumptive disability decisions about people sick with HIV infection which may not have progressed into AIDS."

After an hour of demonstrating, a group of 18 activists, carrying large sheets of paper "money," blocked the intersection of Independence Ave. and 3rd St. SW, chanting, "Wasting money is a crime; women are dying before their time."

After a brief standoff with D.C. and Capitol Police which involved at least two scuffles with officers, the six women and 12 men were arrested and charged with obstructing a road.

Among the protesters not arrested were three women who are part of a class-action lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court Oct. 1 challenging the SSA's handling of disability applications of women, children, drug users and homeless people with HIV infection.

The lawsuit, filed against HHS Secretary Louis W. Sul-

livan by a number of liberal and gay organizations, lists two Hispanic women, an African-American woman, a homeless African-American man and a two-year-old Hispanic infant as plaintiffs.

Phyllis Sharpe, 39, one of the plaintiffs, told the crowd how she is battling HIV infection in the Bronx, but has been denied disability benefits because her condition does not qualify her as having AIDS under CDC guidelines.

Weak and suffering from shortness of breath, joint pain and chronic diarrhea, she could not pass the physical test to maintain her job with the New York Transit Authority. But without the disability checks, she cannot provide for her six children.

Also present was Iris de la Cruz, 37, who, despite HIV infection, chronic candidiasis, weight loss, fevers, extrapulmonary tuberculosis and pelvic inflammatory disease, has not been able to qualify under SSA guidelines as being disabled.

A day earlier, a group of AIDS activists also protested the HHS, using helium-filled balloons to float a 15-foot banner inside the D.C. Metro Center subway station during the afternoon rush hour.

The sign read "Louis Sullivan, HHS Secretary: Your AIDS Disability Benefits Stink." A "stink bomb" was also reported to have been released in the station to illustrate the point. ▼

National Briefs

\$400,000 in Gay PAC Funding

The political action committee of the Human Rights Campaign Fund has contributed \$400,000 to candidates running for Congress with only one month remaining in the election year. The Campaign Fund's goal is \$525,000 to pro-lesbian and gay candidates running for U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, nearly a 30 percent increase over 1988. Former Charlotte, N.C., Mayor Harvey Gantt, who is running neck and neck in his race against Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) has received the maximum \$15,000 allowed by law from the Campaign Fund's PAC. Sen. Paul Simon (D-Ill.), chief sponsor of the Hate-Crimes Statistics Act, which earlier this year became the first federal law in history to include lesbians and gays, received \$10,000 in his race against GOP Congresswoman Lynn Martin. Sen. Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.), who chairs the committee with jurisdiction over the National Endowment for the Arts, and Rep. John Miller (R-Wash.), who worked to defeat the Helms-Chapman food handlers amendment on the Americans with Disabilities Act, also received \$10,000. Both openly gay members of Congress, Reps. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) and Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) also received \$10,000 contributions for their campaigns. Republicans have received 16.15 percent of Campaign Fund contributions so far. 18.65 percent have gone to women and 17.59 percent to people of color.

ACT UP Disrupts KC Conference

More than 100 members of ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) from 12 cities converged on Kansas City, Mo., from Sept. 15 to 19 to protest and disrupt the conference of the National Council Against Health Fraud. In civil disobedience actions 23 activists were arrested by rubber-gloved riot police. The four-day National Action for Freedom of Treatment Choice was co-sponsored by ACT UP chapters in Kansas City and New York. According to organizers, the protests were against "insidious efforts by self-proclaimed 'quack-busters' and their backers in the medical profession, pharmaceutical and insurance industries, to suppress competing, non-toxic systems of medicine which People With AIDS are increasingly choosing." The "health fraud" conference was co-sponsored by the American Medical Association and the Health Insurance Association of America, with participation by the Food and Drug Administration.

Pro-Gay Bishop Slams 'Disassociation'

The Episcopal Church's House of Bishops on Sept. 18 voted by a slender margin to "disassociate" itself from the December 1989 ordination of an openly gay priest by Bishop John Spong of Newark. By a vote of 80 to 76 the bishops "affirm(ed) and support(ed)" the Feb. 20 statement by the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church and his Council of Advice, comprised of bishops representing each of the nine provinces of the church, which in turn quoted a 1979 resolution that it is "inappropriate" to ordain "practicing" homosexuals. After the vote Spong in a speech denounced the hypocrisy of the church in not acknowledging the roles played by lesbians and gays in the church. Spong's speech received a standing ovation from several bishops and most of the visitors. Following the vote, there was universal agreement that the church is closely divided on the issue of ordaining lesbians and gays. Several observers suggested that if the vote had been re-taken after Spong's speech, the result would have been different.

Fox TV Show 'Outs' Schwarzenegger

The Fox TV network program *In Living Color* seemingly 'outed' bodybuilder/actor Arnold Schwarzenegger Sept. 21. The apparent 'outing' occurred during the "Men On..." segment of the variety-style comedy program, which features actors Damon Wayans and David Alan Grier as openly gay arts reviewers Blaine Edwards and Antoine Merriweather. The characters appear on a fictional cable-access channel and each week review a different artistic medium. The Sept. 21 episode was entitled, "Men On Films." "Tonight we'll be wrapping up the summer films," said Blaine. "First up is the box-office smash *Total Recall*. Yes, this is the movie where muscle-bound Arnold Schwarzenegger goes in search of his past. Just a hint, Arnold: Try lookin' in the closet." Julie Shannon, a spokeswoman for *In Living Color*, at first said she didn't know what "outing" was. Then she stated: "Oh, wait. Yes, yes, yes. I mean, no. It was just a joke — whatever you want to read into it. The writer who wrote it isn't here. It's not like we know something and anyone else doesn't. I don't know." Shannon went off the phone line twice, seemingly to confer with others, but she said the above remarks should be attributed only to her.

— Rex Wockner

Gay-Lesbian Task Force Joins Boycott

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force on Oct. 4 joined the gay community boycotts of Marlboro cigarettes and Miller beer. Both products are owned by Philip Morris Inc. which has donated \$195,000 to anti-gay U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) and a library that bears his name. The boycotts are spearheaded by ACT UP chapters and the Dallas Gay Alliance. The Miller portion of the action has met resistance from bar owners in many cities where local Miller distributors have frequently funded gay and AIDS causes. Meanwhile, NGLTF Development Director Jamie Grant said that in late September Philip Morris invited NGLTF to apply for a \$10,000-\$15,000 grant to fund AIDS lobbying. NGLTF declined the invitation. The Human Rights Campaign Fund, Washington's other major gay-rights organization, has already endorsed both boycotts.

Rex Wockner

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Photos: Rick Gerharter

Castro Street Fair 1990



(Photo: Mark Geller)



by Allen White

Jimmy Sommerville and tens of thousands of people brought the Castro Street Fair into the '90s. Stretching for blocks, the fair is now the largest street fair in the city and possibly the most unique.

As Sylvester did in the late '70s, Sommerville captured the energy of his era as he entertained on the fair's main stage. As the lead singer for Bronski Beat and the Communards, Sommerville is recognized as one of the leading international pop singers who also happens to be openly gay.

For days the word had spread in the community to be at the stage at 1:30 p.m. As the time approached, the crowd jammed into the area. With tension building, emcee Doris

Fish introduced Sommerville.

To the strains of "Small Town Boy," people, from the balcony at Cafe San Marcos to the top of telephone booths, removed their shirts in the hot afternoon sun and began to dance.

Sommerville's performance peaked with his presentation of the Sylvester classic, "(You Make Me Feel) Mighty Real." Sommerville's cover of the song and the accompanying video have received substantial play on MTV as well as on video tracks shown at bars such as the Midnight Sun in the Castro and the Giraffe on Polk Street.

Joined by Connie Champagne and her band, Sommerville launched into the song. Midway through, the

(Continued on page 23)



Prop K

(Continued from page 1)

Critics charge that it is dangerous to specify added liabilities and obligations when people are financially vulnerable and with no concrete benefits to balance the responsibilities.

Registration is Key

Jean Harris, an aide to Britt and coordinator of the Yes on Prop K campaign, doesn't mince words. She said the point of Prop K was to get at the real issue — recognition of same-sex couples. Everything else that was found objectionable last time — such as anxieties about costs to the city in expanding benefits — has been removed.

"This is about lesbian and gay civil rights," she said. "We're not trying to pretend it's not. We're telling people who are in power that they can't define family anymore, they can't define our relationships anymore."

For Harris, that is no mere symbolic achievement. The ordinance can't compel private sector employers to recognize gay couples or extend benefits. But "it will make it more difficult to deny benefits or joint memberships" to couples, she said. It'll change the way people make decisions on regulations regarding relationships.

"It's questionable to say there are no benefits in Prop K," she said. "It sets up a way to prove that a relationship is established."

That would have been helpful when a 76-year-old woman was cut off from her lover of 56 years during a long hospitalization.

"I don't want just my benefits," Harris said.

American Civil Liberties Union attorney Matt Coles, who drafted the ordinance, agrees that acknowledgement of gay and lesbian couples is itself a benefit.

"A critical part of the way society has separated lesbians and gays is the myth that we're emotionally shallow and incapable of commitment. With this, it's hard to deny they (relationships) exist."

Creditors Bill of Rights

Recognition may be a benefit for some. But that recognition could come in an odd form and from a surprising source. You could get a bill for it.

Clint Hockenberry, an attorney who runs the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, said he liked the idea of recognizing domestic partners but he is less than enthusiastic about Prop K.

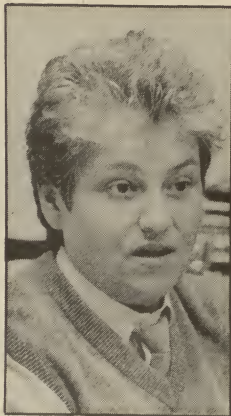
"My main concern is, it doesn't do anything," Hockenberry said. "And there is one sentence that complicates the entire discussion."

He's referring to section 2(d) of the proposed ordinance. That proviso states that by signing the Declaration of Domestic Partnership, "two people agree to be jointly responsible for basic living expenses."

Furthermore, the same sentence specifies that "this agreement can be enforced by anyone to whom those expenses are owed."

Hockenberry, who bluntly calls the ordinance a "creditors bill of rights," believes the terms "basic living expenses" are vaguely defined, opening doors to creditors.

"While it doesn't do anything, it creates new liabilities," he said. "Collection



Jean Harris

agencies will aggressively use any tool available to collect. They will come after domestic partners."

He said this was a particular concern for ALRP clients, 8 percent of whom — out of 2,100 clients — are in bankruptcy proceedings.

"They're financially vulnerable and their lovers could be left holding the bag," Hockenberry said.

Up till now, lesbian and gay couples, because of their unrecognized status, could pick and choose how much they wanted to combine or separate their finances. Prop K, Hockenberry fears, would create a blanket authorization for creditors.

"It didn't need to have that in there," he said. "I have no problem saying we should bear responsibility for one another but we should get something in return."

But the possibility of creditors coming after domestic partners exists even without the ordinance specifying it, Coles said.

"Aggressive creditors could try to collect without this ordinance if the relationship increases that possibility," he said.

Prop K does not increase that possibility.

If both partners' names are on a lease, both are already presumed liable for the full rent. If one partner fails to pay his/her share, both are evicted. No new obligations are created by the ordinance, Coles said.

The ordinance specifies that partners are responsible only for basic living expenses. According to Coles, that is not an open door for creditors. If one partner goes on a spending spree at Macy's, there's nothing in Prop K that allows Macy's to hit up a lover for the bill. Basic means basic: food and shelter, as stated in the ordinance text. A grocer who sells food on credit could collect but not Macy's.

"There is a real legal obligation but the possibility of getting stuck with a huge accrued bill is not there," Coles said.

One potential liability might be for a portion of the costs of temporary nursing home care. But that poses a very remote risk.

According to Coles, the financial obligation proviso is not unnecessary as Hockenberry contends but in fact strengthens the ordinance.

"I doubt you could use it credibly for anything (such as future insurance benefits) without that obligation in it, without that commitment," he said.

The reason specific benefits were not included in this proposal is that the city is about to institute, or has al-

ready, some benefits through administrative action.

"We didn't want to make those benefits dependent on a ballot proposition," he said.

Federal law prohibits cities and states from compelling insurance coverage for anyone.

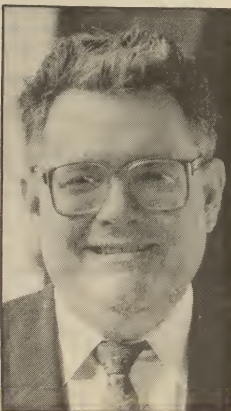
"The most the city can do is set up a system for the recognition of relationships," Coles said.

Insurance coverage has to be negotiated with insurers.

The value of having a registration system with no list of benefits attached is that no one can claim two people signed up just to get the benefits.

"To qualify for insurance, you have to have a relationship that exists independent of the availability of insurance," Coles said. "You have to define a relationship in a way that has nothing to do with insurance coverage."

There are two ways of doing that. One is to require that a couple be together a certain length of time before they're eligible to sign up.



Harry Britt

The other is to prohibit a person from entering a new partnership until a previous one has been over for at least six months. Prop K opts for the second method.

Threat to PWAs?

Worse than carrying no immediate job benefits, Prop K's critics say it could jeopardize existing benefits for people with AIDS. A person with AIDS could find his/her eligibility for public assistance threatened if a lover's assets get counted as household income. Or lovers could find the feds knocking at their door demanding refunds for overpayments.

But proponents of Prop K say that's farfetched. Federal law governs most public assistance programs, directly or indirectly, and is very clear about what and whose assets count.

And domestic partners isn't mentioned.

Hockenberry admits that more potential problems exist with private creditors than with government programs. But he is still wary.

"Prop K creates a contract that is legally enforceable," Hockenberry said. "If an agency determines that there has been an overpayment to someone for whatever reason, the government can become a creditor and demand a refund."

According to the Social Security Administration's Program Operations Manual System, which interprets federal regulations, the government can collect such an overpayment from anyone with legal responsibility for the support of the person receiving aid.

"It's a limited situation," Hockenberry said, "but it does establish the concept that the government can collect as a creditor. Whether they will use it, I don't know."

But, Coles said, "The problem with that reasoning is: where do you get an overpayment?" An overpayment would be caused by income or resources not included in calculating benefits. Only a spouse's income counts.

"Yes, the government could perhaps collect if there is an overpayment. But there is no overpayment because of domestic partnership," he said.

Coles told the Bay Area Reporter, "I have not seen how it (Prop K) would be detrimental to assistance for people with AIDS. Nobody has found a way it might and people familiar with the system say it is unlikely we will find a way."

Going program by program, Coles explains why domestic partnership is unlikely to cause problems. Social Security Disability is based on an individual's disabled condition and whether he/she has "paid into" the Social Security system. It has nothing to do with anyone else's assets.

Supplemental Security Income is restricted by federal statute to look only at the income of spouses from legal marriages.

Medi-Cal has eligibility criteria similar to SSI.

Food Stamps considers all household income if your entire household buys and shares food. If you buy your food separately, only your income is considered, not a roommate's or a domestic partner's. And if you do share food, a partner's income must be counted regardless of whether or not the two individuals ever registered as domestic partners.

Providing support for someone can also affect eligibility but it does so regardless of the existence of a Declaration of Domestic Partnership.

Julia Lopez, head of San Francisco's Department of Social Services, stated in a Sept. 10 memo that "passage of the domestic partners ini-



Matt Coles

tiative would not have any affect on eligibility for benefit programs administered by the department."

She said that most partners would still be considered as single individuals for eligibility and in the determination of benefits.

"A memo from Julia Lopez

is helpful," Hockenberry said, "but policies can change. One rider on an appropriations bill from someone like (Rep. William) Dannemeyer could change all that."

Could it change? Yes, Coles said, but he doubts it will.

"If state or federal governments want to recognize domestic partners as equivalent to marriage, that would have a set of very interesting consequences."

For Richer, For Poorer

Coles concedes that Prop K may not be perfect but he defends it as more precise than similar ordinances in other California cities.

"It is not totally risk free," he said. "Coming out is not without its risks too. But this (Prop K) minimizes the dangers while maximizing the potential for benefits."

If a couple signs up, he said, they are promising to take responsibility for each other.

"If you don't want the responsibility, don't sign up."

Domestic partnership is not marriage, he cautions. Couples should still have other documents such as wills and durable powers of attorney to protect their rights.

Hockenberry thinks that a warning to that effect should be included when couples sign up.

"There are tradeoffs," he said. "As long as people make informed decisions, there's no problem. But it's difficult to do proper legal education. People will not realize what's at stake."

So, what does it all add up to?

First, establishing a domestic partners registration system with no specific benefits attached has significant value. It is not an empty symbol. Recognizing gay and lesbian relationships could prove to be a more important contribution to the community than any job benefits.

Second, the risk of new liabilities and financial obligations seems minimal. Obligations are clearly restricted to basic living expenses, some of which are covered in existing law already (e.g. non-payment of rent). Prop K doesn't allow much room for even aggressive creditors to harass couples (though some will try).

The same is true for public assistance programs. Laws governing those benefits are very clear and specific. A city ordinance has no chance of altering federal regulations.

Third, a couple should be careful to understand the potential risks they may face before they run off and sign up in a romantic daze. There is the chance of one partner taking on liability for some expenses of the other. The fact that there are risks doesn't mean you shouldn't do it — just know what you're getting into.

After all, people don't usually marry (or not marry) because there are job benefits (or risks). People marry because they cherish one another.

So far, polls show Prop K too close to call. The fate of domestic partners likely rests on just who comes out to vote Nov. 6. Older, conservative, frequent voters oppose the measure by large pluralities. While younger, single people who tend to vote less often support the idea by similarly large margins. In the gay and lesbian community, one poll showed 94 percent support.

Getting the right voters to the polls will be the challenge. ▽

I Need a New Drug

by Michael C. Botkin

I'm approaching my second anniversary as an AZTer, and frankly I'm getting a little antsy. I've never bought into the "AZT is Drano in pill form" school of thought. Although the drug has had plenty of downswings in its hype cycle — HIV resistant strains, limited period of benefit scare, the lymphoma scare — I never worried too much.

This was partly because I had very visible signs that it worked for me. I was in pretty drastic decline when I began AZT, and my bounce back after I started on it was dramatic and convincing. None of the dreaded side-effects ever materialized; my teeth buzzed for about two weeks and that was it.

So all in all I am a satisfied customer, especially since I've never had to pay for it out of pocket (cost being the major drawback of this product).

But I was also reluctant to experiment with the few alternatives. Last year, when ddI became available, I toyed with the idea of switching over but decided not to. "Why be a guinea pig?" I asked. "I'll wait a while until they find out what its side effects are —

until it comes down off of its hype cycle."

Now I have logged another year on AZT, the old warhorse of HIV treatment, and I'm getting just a touch worried. I've seen the signs in my lab results and from my body that HIV is progressing; nothing drastic, but enough to cut through my comfortable denial, enough to make me begin to look around seriously for something beyond AZT.

The Supermarket

Fortunately, and not entirely by chance, I happen to live in the HIV research capital of the universe. There are more experimental AIDS treatments available in the City than anywhere else in the world. And last weekend most of them were all on display at the Patient Advocates for Necessary Treatment day-long forum, "Everything You Wanted to Know About Clinical Trials."

In addition to a series of panels on the ins and outs of clinical trials, there were info tables from most research sites in the Bay Area, each busily recruiting for their trials.

I went with a shopper's instinct and busily browsed the merchandise, carefully read-



Activists protest for access to ddI and ddC this week.

(Photo: Gerharter)

ing the fine print on the protocols.

"What are you looking for?" a helpful agency representative asked as I shuffled through her offerings, one after the other.

"I'd like to get on ddC, really," I responded. "But I'd be willing to go on ddI if I could know what dose I'm getting."

"Hah! You'll have to join us if that's what you want," said the cute guy from the Project Inform table next to us, brandishing a lime-green

poster that trumpeted "ddI, ddC or DOA" and announced a demonstration for the coming week.

No Bluelight Specials

Indeed, he seemed to be right. I felt like a shopper in one of those empty stores you read about in Moscow or Warsaw, where the shelves are empty of all the essentials. It was hard to find a package that wasn't selling you at least a 50 percent chance of AZT.

I don't want to go into a trial where you get either AZT or ddI — I've already got AZT and what I want is to get off of it. If I get desperate enough, I may enter one anyway, and drop out if I get assigned AZT.

These trials are supposed to be "blind," where no one knows which drug you get, but I can read lab results well enough to tell the difference. Also, the side effects are completely different.

The federal government is the only one who's "blinded" in these trials; they seem to have a talent for maintaining blindness that patients and nurses just can't bring off.

But though I can know if I'm on AZT or ddI, I still wouldn't know what dose of ddI I'd be getting; this is also the problem with the ddI trials for the "AZT intolerant."

They're testing three doses of ddI; the proper dose, the double dose and the triple dose, in my biased opinion. I really have no desire to experiment with a triple dose of ddI. Problem is, they won't know for sure what the correct dose is until somebody gets sick — somebody in a clinical trial.

This leaves, finally, "compassionate access" to ddI. If you have "failed" AZT, they'll let you have ddI. But when I read the requirements I was horrified. You have to be more than half dead to qualify. To get ddC this way you must have "failed" BOTH AZT and ddI. Have you ever seen someone who's "failed" an anti-viral? Let alone two anti-virals? Personally, I don't know anyone who's survived "failing" two anti-virals.

Cats may have nine lives, but HIVers are lucky to get three.

Essentially, there was pretty limited access, compassionate or otherwise, to the types of treatments I want and probably need to stay alive.

Life Raft or Roach Motel?

Discouraged, I went in to watch the panels (and moderate one on "Who Has the Power?" in clinical trials). HIVers told their stories about participating in clinical trials; usually not a rosy pic-

(Continued on page 23)

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AIDS Briefs

Compound Q Community Forum

The AIDS Project of the East Bay in cooperation with Uncle Gene's Lab, a Bay Area Guerrilla Clinic for patient self-treatment of AIDS, is sponsoring a Community Forum on Compound Q, Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 7 p.m. at Providence Hospital Auditorium at 3100 Summit in Oakland. The forum will feature a panel discussing the effectiveness and implications of the use of Compound Q. Four years after the discovery that Compound Q kills HIV-infected cells in the laboratory and one year after FDA-approved clinical trials of Q got under way, a network of underground clinics is taking direct action to make the drug available to people with HIV, AIDS and ARC. Despite criticism from some established doctors and fears of the dangerous and sometimes fatal reactions to the drug, Uncle Gene's Lab and other clinics across the nation are expanding the drug's use in response to sweeping reports of Q's efficacy.

HIV Home-Care Training

A free training for friends, lovers and family members who are caring for people with AIDS/Disabling HIV disease at home is being jointly offered by Shanti Project and Home Care Companions Inc., during five weeknight evenings from 7-10 p.m., Oct. 17-23. This is a "how-to" training for anyone who is caring for or anticipating caring for a friend with AIDS/Disabling HIV disease at home. The training is intended to help improve the quality of non-professional home-based care for people with AIDS by providing support and tools for self-care of the home-care provider. Advance registration required by calling Celi Phillips at 824-3269. For more information, call Donna McCarthy at Shanti Project, 777-2273.

HIV

(Continued from page 22)

ture. In the typical scenario, the HIVer starts getting sick and asks to stop or reduce their dosage of the experimental treatment. The researchers instead suggest that they get \$6,000 worth of tests to see if something else could be wrong, but threaten to kick them out of the trial if they tampered with the dosage.

These were feisty HIVers: they told their experimenters to take a flying fuck and cut back their doses anyway, upon which two things occurred.

First, they got better. Second, the researchers suddenly got all pliable and reasonable and concerned, and agreed to let them stay in the study regardless.

The clinical trials honchos keep reminding us that trials are NOT treatment, they're research. When we sign up, they would have us believe, we sacrifice our "rights" as patients and become altruistic volunteers, blazing a path for others but not counting on benefits ourselves.

Is this a set up or what? People are fighting for access

to these trials, but I wonder if it isn't like fighting your way into a roach motel.

The Alternatives

I believe that these trials are done competently and ethically (or at least that a good shopper can find such trials). But it is important to remember that they are not designed as treatment, and that their designers will be the first to acknowledge this.

Clinical trials have, in fact, become access to treatment, but this is novel and uncomfortable to the systems that generate the trials.

I could:

— do nothing. "If its not broken, don't fix it." Either I don't get sick, and it turns I out was worrying for nothing, or I do, at which point I clearly pass as having "failed" AZT, collect my medals, and move onto another anti-viral — assuming I survive my second skirmish with death.

— enter a trial. I could be abandoning a drug that works for one that will kill me, or saving my life by staying one jump ahead of the virus (assuming the new drug is not being administered at an overdose that kills me).

— get ddC on the gray market and basically run a little

clinical trial of my own; same risks as above but at least I get to control the key decisions. This route is finding increasing popularity.

— pray that the federal government is pressured into "early approval" of ddI and ddC, making both available for mixing and matching with whatever else you do.

Protest

(Continued from page 17)

that ACT UP has held."

The Project Inform proposal is not intended to make life easier for the pharmaceutical industry. Included in the concept are requirements that the companies move quickly to collect and analyze their data and finance large-scale post-marketing studies that would monitor how the drugs behaved under real conditions.

Delaney feels that the tailoring of drug combinations for individual HIVers is most properly the job of doctors and their patients.

Government-financed trials of AZT have yet to determine the optimum dose for that drug while community-based physicians have led the way in reducing its administration to a much safer daily rate. ▼

Bush

(Continued from page 15)

Quilt as he flew over in a helicopter. At the time, more than 1,000 people standing on the Quilt pointed their fingers at the helicopter and emotionally chanted, "Shame! Shame! Shame!"

A goal of the NAMES Project is to have President and Mrs. Bush actually walk through the Quilt. Lemos believes the meeting was another step in making that a reality.

Discussions on the subject have been going on with the White House for over a year, and there is optimism the Bushes may participate in an AIDS-related activity on World AIDS Day in December.

According to a representative of Barbara Bush, every time she takes a stand regarding AIDS, there is a backlash from right-wing politicians. Lemos agreed, saying the biggest obstacle is political. "I don't think it has to do with learning about AIDS," Lemos said. "I think it has to do with being bold enough to take a stand about it." ▼

Groceries at Open Hand

by Dennis Conkin

In a major change for Project Open Hand, clients who formerly received a bag lunch and a hot dinner as part of the program, will now receive a weekly bag of easy to prepare groceries instead of daily lunches.

The change comes after a survey of Open Hand clients and will allow the clients a greater and more varied choice of food.

According to Thom Bartasavage, the coordinator of the Food Bank, a joint venture of Open Hand and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, clients on regular, soft, low salt or bland diets will continue to receive nutritious foods from these diet groups.

For more information about the program contact Karen Bishoff at Project Open Hand 558-0600 Tuesday through Saturday. For more information about the Food Bank and its programs call 252-5971. ▼

Castro Fair

(Continued from page 20)

hard-driving tune had the crowd going. The moment was as emotional for Somerville as it was for his audience. Sylvester, after all, was synonymous with the Castro Street Fair.

Somerville's energy was electrifying as the generations of Sylvester and Somerville, the '70s and the '90s, came together.

The Castro Street Fair has grown over the years to now encompass over five blocks from 19th and Castro to Noe and Market Streets.

As in previous years, there was an ample mix of art work on sale and groups ranging from political clubs to a gay group of user-friendly Apple computer owners.

Harvey Milk, who was one of the founders of the Castro Street Fair, had hoped the fair would raise awareness of political issues.

This year gay candidates Carole Migden, Roberta Achtenberg and Tom Ammiano tried to do just that, spending much of the afternoon talking to people and gathering support.

Music was to be found in more places than just the main stage. Over at 18th Street and Hartford, the street became a dance floor as Butch Wax Records provided music throughout the afternoon.

On Castro Street there was as much action on top of the buildings as there was on the street. Finocchio's Tommi Røge held court from a balcony above the Phoenix bar. Across the street scantily clad men flexed their muscles and mooned the crowd from a rooftop.

Down on the street, this was the year for the emergence of the home-video camera. By the dozens, they were capturing the images of the day. ▼

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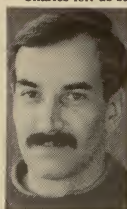
ONLY IN THE B.A.R.

DEATHS

Charles Canfield

Feb. 9, 1946-Oct. 1, 1990

Charles left us suddenly and unexpectedly Oct. 1 at Oakland's Merritt Hospital as a result of the rapid onset of HIV complications.



Social Services for the past 16 years.

A graduate of Indiana University, Charles had worked as a disability evaluator for the California Department of Social Services for the past 16 years.

Charles will be lovingly remembered by his family and friends as an ardent Anglophile who was fascinated by the British royal family, as a voracious reader of contemporary fiction and as a collector of hundreds of popular recordings from the '50s, '60s and '70s. He was without peer in the entertainment category of Trivial Pursuit.

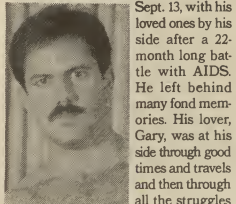
Charles is survived by his mother, Elizabeth Canfield of Lafayette, Ind.; by his sister, Linda Jeffries of Dayton, Ind.; by his brother, Bob Canfield of San Rafael, Calif.; and by his San Francisco friends and co-workers.

Memorial contributions may be made to Project Open Hand, 2720 17th St., San Francisco, CA 94110. ▽

Nestor H. Badia

Feb. 25, 1957-Sept. 13, 1990

Our beloved Nestor passed away



Sept. 13, with his loved ones by his side after a 22-month long battle with AIDS. He left behind many fond memories. His lover, Gary, was at his side through good times and travels and then through all the struggles and pain. During his final month, his mother aided in his care and never left his side.

Always a fighter full of determination, Nestor never let go until the very end. He was blessed with stunning good looks and a kind, loving heart. He lived life to the fullest. Though we all feel the loss, we are comforted in knowing that he will suffer no more.

Nestor is survived by his lover, Gary; his mother and father, Eva and Miguel Badia; his brother, Rene, and his wife, Vivian; sister, Evita, and her husband, Carlos; seven nephews and nieces; and a brother, Miguel; most all in Miami.

A burial service was held in Miami, and an informal celebration of his life will soon be held here. Donations in his name should be sent to the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Nestor, we will never forget the humorous moments near the end—your chimichangas and those M & M's. You will always remain in our hearts. Our beloved one, may you rest in eternal peace. ▽

John L. Hall

1932-1990

Society lost one of its finest wits with the passing of John Aug. 23. If there is a hereafter, then Oscar Wilde himself was there to welcome John "home."

He lived in San Anselmo at the time of his death. Born in Pasadena, John was reared in Nevada and was educated, in part, at Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes scholar.

He taught English at the Hockaday School, Dallas; the Bishop's School, La Jolla; and for the past 27 years, at the Branson School, Ross, where an endowed chair in English will be created in his memory. He was a most popular teacher who will be remembered by both colleagues and students for his sense of humor.

Friends of John will meet for cocktails in the near future. Also, plans are being made to create his panel for the AIDS quilt. Phone 836-0725 for details. ▽

Albert B. "Bud" Crawford

July 11, 1940-Oct. 6, 1990

A native of Pittsburgh (Crawford County), Kansas, Bud began work at the age of nine. Graduating Pittsburgh High in 1960, he entered the printing industry and became a master pressman for 30 years in Pittsburgh, Wichita and San Francisco.

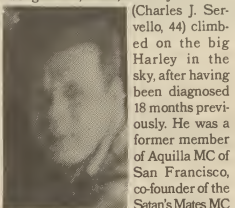
Bud lived in Wichita from 1967 to 1986, where he raised his son, John. Also, he was a president of the Pegasus MC and a president of his GCIU Local in Wichita.

Diagnosed positive in July 1986, he fulfilled a lifelong dream by moving to the City Jan. 27, 1987. He loved the natural beauty and freedom of San Francisco and its citizens. He wanted everyone to know that he fought his painful struggle as hard and as long as he could with all his will to live. He is buried in Girard, Kansas.

Bud is survived by his beloved son, John, and daughter-in-law, Jacie; daughter, Suzanna; four grandchildren: Jennifer, Jocelyn, Tanya and Casey; his adoring sister, Mary; brothers, James Arthur and John Thomas; mother, Geraldine; and friends Dwight D., Roy S., Jeff F., Michael F., Edward K., Tim C., Patrick H., Leo, Joe D., Bob S., and most of all by Mike B., who will love and miss you forever. For info, call (415) 239-7346. ▽

Charles Joseph Servello

On Sept. 11 at the VA Hospital in Long Beach, Calif., Motorcycle Chuck



(Charles J. Servello, 44) climbed on the big Harley in the sky, after having been diagnosed 18 months previously.

He was a former member of Aquilla MC of San Francisco, co-founder of the Satan's Mates MC

of San Francisco and the proud owner of 22 motorcycles.

Chuck did numerous cross-country trips. He is survived by his mother, sister and nine brothers, all of whom were originally from Altoona, Pa.

Chuck was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy in 1969. He worked in various plastics factories as an extruder. He also was part owner and driver for a trucking company hauling merchandise in 18-wheelers. ▽

David H. VandenHeuvel

Dec. 10, 1934-Sept. 19, 1990

David, 55, was a longtime resident of San Francisco and was involved in so many community activities. He was for many years a member of the Coits of San Francisco and a former recording secretary as well as president of the Coits. He was a longtime member of the Tavern Guild Bowling League.

David was an eccentric man. Those of us who loved him understood him. He never made mistakes—this was proven during the long years he was official scorekeeper for the C.S.L.

David will be missed by his friends, Chuck Demmon of SF and Tommy Turner of Honolulu. ▽

Charles "Randall" Roberts

April 3, 1948-Oct. 1, 1990

Randall is survived by legions of frustrated men and a few true friends. He touched the hearts and holes of many.

From his own lips: "I am not here for a long time, just a good time."

Please join us for a cocktail at the Watering Hole, Oct. 17, 9 p.m., in his memory.

There will be a memorial gathering, Oct. 21 at noon, on Randall Hill with a reception and celebration following. Phone for directions to memorial service: (707) 874-3342.

Donations are greatly appreciated for his rite-of-passage celebration. Please make checks payable to Fernando Brito, 971 Adams St., Albany, CA. ▽

David Miller

Aug. 1948-April 14, 1990

Our friend David died on April 14 at Ralph K. Davies Medical Center from complications related to AIDS.

A 10-year resident of San Francisco, David was born and raised in Utah. He studied classical ballet in New York, followed by collegiate dance in Utah.

After settling in Denver for the '70s,

he was active in professional dance as a performer, choreographer and instructor. He was a talented artist, a generous and loyal friend and a rare honest man with a humorous heart.

Although a non-AIDS related illness limited his dance vocation in recent years, David was a dedicated business person in telecommunications.

He is survived by his dad, Mel, and friend, Tim, from Utah; loved by Patti and Johnny, Maggie and others, in Denver; missed by Caroline, Gary, Jenny and Les, from Seattle. Godspeed. ▽

H. Lee Bratton

Dec. 25, 1951-Sept. 19, 1990

Concluded his long and valiant struggle with AIDS at his home, surrounded by his lover, Frank Storm, and his parents, Bryson and Betty Bratton. His courage, spirit and sense of humor have been an inspiration to all of us whose

lives he touched and to the myriad of doctors who never ceased to be amazed by his resiliency and his ability to educate them in the ways of this disease.

His natural siblings, Bryson Jr., Theresa Bottorff and Linda Tatum, will miss him just as his adopted San Francisco "sisters" and "brothers" will miss him. The lives of his clients as a social worker have been changed for the better because of his influence.

Yes, the shell is gone, but his spirit lives in our hearts and our souls. Come celebrate his life Oct. 27, 2 p.m., at the San Francisco Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St. ▽

Leo "David" Ayers

Sept. 4, 1963-Sept. 29, 1990

A mystical, magical, solitary and gregarious being with a zest for life and higher consciousness.

Leo was actively involved with the Radical Faeries and the Nomen Faerie land trust. He passionately investigated different forms of world spirituality and native shamanism, which he shared with others at the faerie gatherings he attended. Not locked into any form of social behavior, Leo could easily switch from serious to playful—from a brilliant, dedicated student to an innocent, puppylike being.

Leo took his final spiritual journey while in the presence of his mother, Anita, and his friends, Ric (Nymphaeae), Teddy Bare, Andrew, Ed and Jerry (Dr. Wood). A memorial service is planned for Leo Oct. 28. Call Tele-faerie (626-3369) a few days before this for more details. ▽

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Jerry Evans

Jan. 19, 1947-Aug. 17, 1990

Jerry left us Aug. 17 after a long battle with AIDS. After seeing his mother and sister, Sally, who flew in that morning, he passed away at the Veterans' Hospital in Portland, Ore.

Jerry was born in Mankato, Minn. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Da Nang, Vietnam, prior to his honorable discharge in 1969. He moved to Portland, Ore., in 1970, and became a dearly loved member of that city's gay community, particularly at The Family Zoo, where he was known as Blossom Delight, Slum Goddess of the Pacific Northwest.

Jerry came to San Francisco in the early 1980s, working in the hair replacement business and as a word processor. He returned to Portland in 1988, happy to be back with his dear friends, especially Rick Meador, who provided welcome company and support during his illness.

He leaves his mother and stepfather, Kathryn and DV Schultz, of Mankato, Minn.; sisters, Diane Magloire, Cindy Vanlandingham and Sally McGraw; stepbrother, Mary Hildebrand; stepbrother, Bill Schultz, along with several nieces and nephews. He also leaves an extended family in Portland and the Bay Area who will miss his wit, smile and always genuine concern. We know he's providing good company to his new friends. ▽

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DEATHS

T.J. Myers

Charismatic heartthrob of the capella group, The Flirtations, lead dancer with the Rachel Lambert Dance Company and the organizational whiz kid of the Gay Men's Health Crisis, Terri Joseph "TJ" Myers died peacefully



of complications due to AIDS Aug. 28, days after moving from New York to San Francisco to be with his lover, Michael Weiss.

Born Feb. 7, 1960 in Twenty-Nine Palms (I), Calif., TJ had always wanted to live in his sunny birthstate. And in very TJ-like fashion, he did what he set out to do.

A singer, dancer, actor, choreographer, producer, teacher, graphics designer, adventurer, TJ was a man of boundless talent and energy. There was seemingly nothing he couldn't do, nothing he couldn't make happen. He had the quickest mind I have ever seen. And there was nothing he loved more than a challenge.

TJ was what you'd call a natural — dancing came easily to him. He was a choreographer's dream. Not only could he remember whole combinations of steps from a rehearsal several weeks earlier, he was at home in every conceivable dance style. He moved with absolute surety and dramatic understanding. He was all confidence and concentration. It was the same quality that he brought to his work with the Flirtations.

Even in his illness he would somehow rise to the occasion, turning on all that TJ-electricity and warmth. Of course, his boyish good looks and his sexy, pop voice didn't hurt. Audiences simply fell in love with him.

So did everyone at GMHC. He worked in the Department of Client Services for several years. There he developed their excellent publication, *Living with AIDS*, a resource directory for New York City. He also brought the department of client services into the computer age, changing most of their operational procedures and making them far more efficient. As I said, he loved a challenge.

His unexpected death left behind an army of friends, relatives and acquaintances: his lover, Michael (will we ever forget their matching homemade Mickey Mouse Gay Pride Day shirts?); his brother, Randy, and Randy's lover, Jimmy Mello, with whom TJ and Michael had lived in New York; his mother Shirley; his three sisters and one older brother (all back in Iowa); Rachel Lambert and countless dance partners; students and choreographers with whom he worked through the years; the "FAB-ulous Flirts" (as he used to call

them, his voice soaring; with whom he created something that transcended the sum of their lives; scores of co-workers at GMHC; and thousands of friends and fans across the country.

Funeral services were held in Iowa in early September, but a memorial service-celebration will be held in New York at a date to be announced. The family requests that memorial contributions be made to the Univ. of Iowa Dance Dept. or an appropriate AIDS organization. Donations will be collected by The Flirtations: P.O. Box 421, Prince Street Station, NYC 10012-0008.

Ron DeLuca

Pat Christen, executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, regretfully announced the death of Ron DeLuca, who retired from the foundation last April after serving as the agency's development director for the past five years. DeLuca had been struggling with AIDS for two years and passed away on his birthday, Sept. 22.

Ron DeLuca came to the foundation in December 1985 after spending four years in development work at Coleman Children and Youth Services and at the San Francisco Opera. He built the foundation's fundraising program from the ground up, and left in place an operation that raises over \$3 million a year. One of DeLuca's most important achievements was to bring to the city AIDS Walk San Francisco, which last year raised over \$1.8 million for the foundation and eight city AIDS agencies.

Staff members who worked closely with Ron DeLuca say that he brought a brand of professionalism to the foundation that significantly enhanced the agency's presence within the corporate-funding community.

"Because of their controversial nature, the foundation's programs and activities can be very difficult to promote among potential funders," said Tricia Foster, the foundation's special events coordinator. "Ron had a wonderful skill and sensitivity for promoting the agency to diverse funding sources without compromising the foundation's mission and integrity."

Ron DeLuca was born Sept. 11, 1949, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Allegheny College in Pennsylvania with a bachelor's degree in English. He also earned a master's degree in child development from Mills College in Oakland, California.

He is survived by his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. S.A. DeLuca of Florida, and his brothers, David DeLuca of Michigan and Greg DeLuca of Illinois.

Donations in Ron DeLuca's behalf can be given to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Thanksgiving Day Dinner for people with AIDS. ▼

GLAAD MEDIA WATCH

GLAAD, FCC and Broadcaster

by Jack Banks.

Second in a two-part series

This article reviews some of the Federal Communications Commission broadcast regulations that enable GLAAD — and you — to achieve better representation of gays in the broadcast media.

Licensing Process

Anyone has the right to complain to the FCC about a broadcaster's programming. The FCC only grants licenses to broadcasters that it finds will serve the "public interest, convenience and necessity." The FCC must consider all objections.

Licenses must be renewed every five (TV) or seven years (radio). During this process a station must invite public comments to be sent to the FCC. The FCC must consider all information in the station's public file before it can grant the station's renewal application.

Complaints to the FCC

Complaints about a station's programming can be sent at any time to: Federal Communications Commission, Mass Media Bureau, Enforcement Division, Complaints and Investigations Branch, 1919 M. Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Your letter should describe objectionable programming, give times and dates of broadcast and, if possible, include

transcripts. State why you feel such programming did not serve the public interest. Send copies to the station management and GLAAD/SFBA.

GLAAD/SFBA's address is: GLAAD/SFBA, 347 Dolores St., Suite 312, San Francisco, CA 94110.

Complaints filed by community groups can often be more effective than individual complaints. Consider working with GLAAD to handle anti-gay broadcasts.

GLAAD complains to the FCC as a last resort.

First, GLAAD attempts to negotiate with station management. As a result of GLAAD's negotiations, KITS-FM management agreed to air public service announcements for gay organizations and events, air a weekly gay public affairs show and invite gay guests on KITS' morning show.

Similar meetings with KMEL-FM led to a commitment to one public affairs program per quarter on non-AIDS-related gay issues.

Public Inspection File

All broadcasters are required to maintain a public inspection file for use by the FCC to evaluate the station's performance. The public has access to the file upon request, without an appointment or an explanation, during normal business hours. The station must provide facilities for copying portions of the file.

These files are revealing. For instance, GLAAD/SFBA's review of the KQED-TV public file showed its lack of attention to the gay community in its 1989 programs, apart from AIDS coverage.

Every three months, broadcasters must add to the file a list of the most significant community issues addressed in their programs. The community issues list must include times, dates, durations, titles and descriptions of programs.

Additionally, all letters from the public must be put in the file (unless anonymity is requested) and retained for three years. And the file must include a record of all requests for broadcast time made by or on behalf of can-

(Continued on page 28)

Media Alert

The San Francisco Examiner is taking a heavy hit from religious conservatives for its support of Proposition K, the Domestic Partners Ordinance. Last Sunday's paper was full of their letters. Our community must show its support. Please write a simple letter or postcard — a sentence is enough — thanking the Examiner for its support of lesbian and gay issues. Write: Will Hearst, Publisher, San Francisco Examiner, 110 5th St., San Francisco, CA 94103. —GLAAD/SFBA

Immigration

(Continued from page 2)

The standing prohibition against "sexual deviants," which was put into law in 1965, has been used sporadically by immigration agents through the years to bar lesbians and gay men from immigration.

The Frank amendment replaces the list with a shorter one that bars immigration by drug addicts and foreign nationals with a physical or mental disorder, which would be a threat to the individual or to others.

The rider also lifts the U.S. ban on immigration by polygamists.

"I'm very pleased," Frank said after the vote. "This is something I've been working on since I came into Congress."

The removal of the gay immigration ban has long been a goal of the gay and lesbian movement and was one of the key demands of the 1979 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The charge, however, was jettisoned from the list of demands of the 1987 March on Washington.

For five years Frank has been actively working on a bill that would remove the ban on gay immigration. As his bill encountered opposition on grounds unrelated to

the gay provision in the last two Congresses, Frank opted earlier this year to repeal the gay ban as part of Morrison's immigration bill.

The repeal of the gay ban faced no opposition and little discussion when it was attached in the Judiciary Committee, which approved it unanimously. Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Calif.), the leading opponent of lesbians and gay men in the U.S. House, was absent from the Committee vote, but later made no attempt to strike the provision on the House floor.

"Twenty-five years ago in 1965, Congress passed the immigration bill, which specifically had the anti-gay language in it," Frank said. "I think it will be a great 25th anniversary present to have that language repealed."

The Frank amendment does not address the standing ban on foreign nationals with AIDS or HIV infection from entering or visiting.

The AIDS ban was written into law in 1987 as a result of a Sen. Jesse Helms-sponsored amendment that was attached to an unrelated appropriations bill.

A bill ordering the secretary of Health and Human Services to revise the list of "dangerous" diseases that exclude immigrants from entry has been stymied in a House committee for several months. ▼



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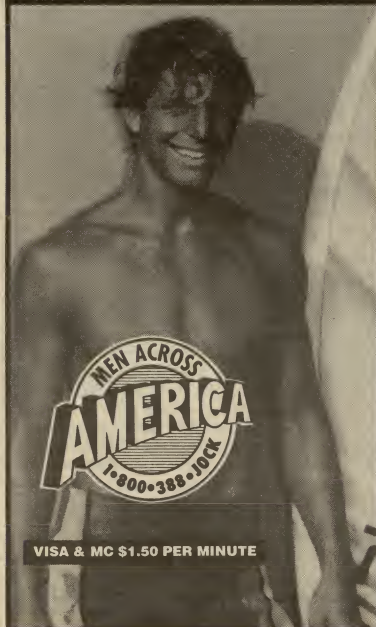
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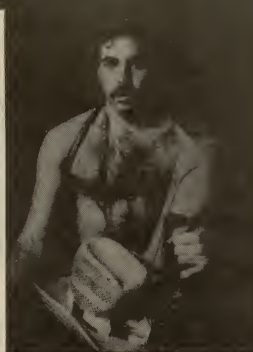


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Health Calendar

FRIDAY

AIDS and ARC Switchboard: For information and support, the switchboard is operated by people with AIDS. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 861-7309.

Young Gay Men's Rap Group: For those 23 and under. This is a non-therapy group conceived and conducted by gay & bisexual young men. 7-9 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

Living Well With AIDS/ARC: Support group based on Attitudinal Healing Principles. 1-3 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

SATURDAY

Natl. Multiple Sclerosis Society: Annual meeting & luncheon for members, family, friends & health care professionals. Focus on new research efforts. Oct. 13, 12-4 p.m. Call 1-800-FIGHT MS or (415) 268-0572.

"Gazebo" Davies Medical Center: "Breathing, Body Awareness, Healing," Oct. 13, 12 p.m. at Castro & Dubose, SF. Call 565-6944, M-F.

Women's AIDS Hotline: Call Saturdays, 9 a.m.-12 noon. Saturday support group, 12-1 p.m. Diablo Valley AIDS Center. Call 686-DVAC.

Women's Clinic: Call at 8:30 a.m. for same day appointment. Pap smears, STDs, bladder & pregnancy testing, and other services. Health care by and for women. Berkeley Free Clinic, 548-2570.

SUNDAY

Afternoon Tea: Come play board games and socialize. 2-7 p.m. For PWA/PWARC/PWHIVs. Free. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

Men's Clinic: STDs, scabies, NGUs, lice, venereal warts, etc., testing and treatment. AIDS/ARC counseling and referrals. Free and confidential. 6-8 p.m. Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 644-0425.

MONDAY

"Gazebo" Davies Medical Center: "Interpreting Your Lab Work" for PWAs & HIV+s. Oct. 15, 11:30 a.m. at Castro & Dubose, SF. Call 565-6944, M-F.

Quit Smoking Clinic: 8-session clinic begins Tuesday, Oct. 23, 6:30 p.m., at Health Center 1, 3850 17th St., SF. \$35 includes materials. Adv. registration required, 554-9763, M-F, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Self Healing Workshop: For HIV+/PWARC/PWAs, caregivers, friends & lovers. Focus on meditative & stress management techniques. Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at Davies Medical Center's Gazebo Room. Call Erik Wheaton at AIDS Health Project, 476-3990.

Women's Health Group: Support and discussion group for physical, mental and emotional issues of women's health. 7:30-9 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

TUESDAY

Quan Yin Healing Arts Center: Offers the following services: HIV Clinic; Herbal Treatment Program; Wellness Program; SF AIDS Alternative Healing Project; and Fertility Program. Call 861-4964, Tue.-Fri., 12-6 p.m.

Asian Gay Men's Support Group: 6:30-8 p.m. The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 548-8283.

Lesbian Psychotherapy Group: 5:30-7 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. Call 626-7000 for appointment.

WEDNESDAY

Evening Lectures on A Course in Miracles: Meditation & discussion led by Frank A. Tiberi. Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., at First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin & Geary, SF. California Miracles Center sponsors, 621-2556.

Home Care Companions: FREE 5-night training for those currently or anticipating caring for a loved one with AIDS or Disabling HIV Disease at home. Oct. 17, 18, 19, 22 & 23; 7-10 p.m. To register or for info, call Celi, 824-3269.

Open Support Group for Women with HIV: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Supervised childcare provided. The Women's Bldg, 1843 18th St., SF. Carlin, 921-3680.

Living Well With AIDS/ARC: Support group based on Attitudinal Healing Principles. 1-3 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

HIV+/AIDS/ARC Support Group: Drop-in group facilitated by Rick Weatherly & Randy Nennelee. 7:30 p.m. MCC, 150 Church, SF. 863-4434.

THURSDAY

Choice in Cancer Therapy: Commonwealth President Michael Lerner, Ph.D., provides a map of informed choice in cancer therapy, integrating conventional therapies and alternative & adjunctive approaches. Oct. 18, 7-9 p.m. \$3-6. Planetree Health Resource Center, 2040 Webster, SF. Call Elizabeth for info or registration, 923-3680.

AI Anon for Black Gays & Lesbians: Thursdays, 7:30-8:45 p.m., at Bethany United Methodist Church, 1268 Sanchez, SF (entrance on Clipper). Call 626-5634 or 995-2581.

African-American HIV+/ARC/AIDS Support Group: Gain independence and reduce isolation and make better use of AIDS services. Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. SF AIDS Foundation, 25 Van Ness, 3rd floor smoking lounge, SF. 864-4376.

Insurance/Employee Benefits Clinic: Thursdays at 6:15, 7 & 7:45 p.m. Free 45-min. private session with an attorney on benefits, COBRA and insurance problems. AIDS Legal Referral Panel, 25 Hickory/Van Ness, SF. 864-8186.

ARC Drop-in For PWAs: Support, information and stress reduction. 6-8 p.m. Health Center 1, 3850 17th St./Noe, Rm. 201, SF. 626-7000.

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BAY AREA REPORTER OCTOBER 11, 1990 PAGE 27

Bay Area Reporter Greater Bay News

Blood Mixup, No HIV Screening

Federal Agents Shut Down East Bay Plasma Center

by Keith Clark

Federal agents have shut down a Contra Costa County blood plasma center after an apparent mixup led to the hospitalization of a young man.

The Pasca Plasma Center in Richmond will remain closed until the problems have been corrected.

Federal officials say one problem is the failure to explain to prospective donors what being at risk for AIDS means.

Anton Clourd, 27, apparently went to the West Contra Costa County blood plasma center Sept. 25 to donate plasma. In the process, he was apparently given someone else's blood during the plasma-extraction process and had to be hospitalized for two days in intensive care.

The day after the incident, Food and Drug Administration officials began their investigation, and on Oct. 4 the FDA ordered Pasca Plasma Center to stop collecting, selling or distributing blood products until the apparent problems are corrected.

When donating plasma, whole blood is removed from the donor, and the liquid plasma and the blood cells are separated. The blood cells are then returned to the donor's body, and the plasma can

then be used for a variety of blood products.

Receiving the wrong blood cells back, particularly if the blood types are different, can cause serious illness, including death.

The FDA investigation found that Pasca Plasma Center management failed to properly train and oversee employees' work routines.

Procedures designed to prevent the sort of blood mixup that apparently sent Clourd to a hospital were not followed, the FDA said, and employees didn't even take proper precautions to ensure prospective donors' skin was sterile before making injections.

The FDA said its investigation found "at least three employees reinfusing red cells" without first asking the donors to identify themselves — a safeguard designed to prevent accidental infusions of the wrong blood cells.

Instead, the FDA said, employees "simply showed the (blood cell package) labels" to donors and asked them if it was theirs.

Asking donors to identify themselves rather than showing them what plasma center employees believe is their blood is crucial at blood centers because some donors become slightly lightheaded after giving blood. FDA offi-

cials have also found that donors who are illiterate sometimes will take whatever blood package is shown to them rather than admit they can't read.

The FDA investigation also charged that when pre-screening prospective donors for possible HIV infection, Pasca Plasma Center employees did not explain what being "at risk" for HIV infection means.

Because a broad spectrum of population groups are now considered at risk, the pre-screening process, the FDA said, was "essentially non-existent" at the center.

Because of the seriousness of the problems, the FDA has ordered Pasca Plasma Center to provide the federal agency with a detailed itemization of the blood products it now has on hand, to inform everyone it has sold blood products to within the past 60 days of the FDA suspension, and barred the center from selling or distributing any blood products until the problems are corrected.

Pasca Plasma Center must also present a retraining program plan for all employees to the FDA for approval by Oct. 15 or federal officials will begin the process of revoking the center's permit. ▼

Greater Bay Briefs

Face to Face Volunteers Needed

Face to Face is now accepting applications for volunteers interested in working with people with HIV. The practical care training will be held on two consecutive Saturdays, Oct. 13 and Oct. 20, at Community Hospital from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information call Jude Winerip, director of volunteers, at 887-1581. The practical care training includes psychological aspects, dementia, risk reduction and practical care skills needed to meet the needs of clients in their homes and assist with their daily living (preparing meals, transferring, bedbaths, etc.). Face to Face now serves more than 250 people living with AIDS and disabling HIV disease, their families and loved ones, throughout Sonoma County. If you are interested in this training or other volunteer opportunities, call Jude at 887-1581 for a volunteer application. Pre-registration for the training is necessary.

Contra Costa Bluelights Campaign

The Contra Costa County Health Services Department's AIDS Program is sponsoring a "Bluelights in Contra Costa County" campaign throughout October, National AIDS Awareness Month. The campaign is part of a worldwide bluelights campaign, which encourages businesses and private citizens to participate by placing a blue light in their windows or by wearing blue ribbons. The lights and ribbons communicate the message: "Stop AIDS." The objectives of Bluelights in Contra Costa County, according to AIDS Program Manager Rusty Keilch, are to increase community awareness of AIDS and HIV prevention and to promote a compassionate response to the AIDS epidemic in Contra Costa County. Fourteen "bluelight stations," where posters, fliers, buttons and a limited supply of blue ribbons and light bulbs may be obtained free of charge, have been established throughout the county. Among those agencies participating as bluelight stations are United Way of the Bay Area in Concord, Supervisor Tom Power's office in Richmond and the Pittsburg Preschool Coordinating Council in Pittsburg. A "bluelights desk" where citizens may call to inquire about bluelight materials has been established at the County AIDS Program office for the month of October. Telephone 646-1240.

Gay Pride/San Jose Elects Officers

The Gay Pride Celebration Committee of San Jose has elected Mark Porsche as president of the 1991 Board of Directors. The new board also elected Dave Carranza as vice president, Judy L. Smith-Johnson, treasurer, and Mark Egan, secretary. Other newly elected board members were Ron Autrand, Jerry Bealieu, Rod Blair, Warren Eggly and Curt Spence. The public is invited to the next board of directors meeting held the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Prestige Electric, 1430 Koll Circle, Suite 102, (near 4th and Gish) San Jose. For more information call the gay pride information line at (408) 534-1972.



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GLAAD

(Continued from page 25)

didates for public office.

GLAAD has found that it can't rely on the good faith of broadcasters to keep their files complete and current. During its inspection of KSJO-FM's public file, GLAAD found that it did not include a current ascertainment report or letters known to have been mailed.

But the FCC's aggressive deregulation of commercial stations during the past decade has made it more difficult for groups to substantiate complaints.

Unfortunately, the FCC policy used most often by community groups to gain access to the media has been repealed.

The Fairness Doctrine required broadcasters to air discussion of "controversial issues of public importance." It also required them to provide a "reasonable opportunity" for presentation of contrasting viewpoints for balance. It allowed stations to control the format and select who would discuss the opposing views.

In its 1969 decision to uphold the constitutionality of the doctrine, the Supreme Court argued that the First Amendment rights of the public supersede those of the broadcasters.

The court said, "It is the purpose of the First Amend-

ment to preserve an uninhibited marketplace of ideas in which truth will ultimately prevail, rather than to countenance monopolization. ... It is the right of the public to receive suitable access ... which is crucial here."

Despite that decision the FCC abandoned the doctrine in 1987, contending that the policy was an unconstitutional infringement on broadcasters' First Amendment freedom of speech.

A classic example of how the Fairness Doctrine can be used to combat defamation and achieve greater media access for gays is the Metropolitan Community Church case.

In 1977 the fundamentalist Faith Broadcasting Network broadcast programs attacking gays and the gay-oriented MCC on stations in San Francisco, Hartford and Glendale. Hartford MCC pastor the Rev. Jay Deacon contacted local affiliate WHCT, which aired the shows, seeking reply time under the Fairness Doctrine. He pointed out that homosexuality was a "controversial issue."

Because WHCT and Faith Broadcasting were unresponsive, Deacon forwarded his complaint to the FCC.

While the FCC responded that Deacon had not adequately documented his complaint, WHCT was sufficiently intimidated to air Deacon's defense of gay rights.

Faith Broadcasting also aired his program on its San Francisco station, KVOFTV, which was under pressure from local gay groups that had also invoked the Fairness Doctrine.

There remains substantial support for the doctrine in Congress. In 1987 Congress approved a bill that would restore the Fairness Doctrine, but Reagan vetoed it in 1988.

This year Rep. John Dingell (D-Mich.), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, vowed that no major legislation favorable to broadcasters would be passed until the Fairness Doctrine becomes law.

Send a postcard of support for efforts to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine to: Rep. John Dingell, Chairman, House Energy and Commerce Committee, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.

Also: (Your Congressperson), U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515 and (Your Senator), United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510. ▼

We need you.



American Heart
Association

The Countdown Is Finished

ABNEGATING
INTERREGNUM
(A "Toodle-oo" Nose)

Many, many years ago — more than I really care to count, don't you know — the *Bay Area Reporter* was a bi-weekly publication. It was composed of 99 percent gossip/tattle tales from San Francisco and 1 percent of East Bay, neighboring counties, state and national goings on.

That which was written about anything happening over in Oakland or Hayward or San Leandro, down the valley in Modesto, or up the rivers (Sacramento and Guerneville) was contributed by a wonderful guy named Gene Earl. He not only published bits and pieces of events "around the area" but also he was responsible for delivering the papers to the "outlands" from San Francisco.

Friday nights were his delivery to Oakland, and he always managed to "pop in for a drink or two" when he arrived at Revol. That's how I got to know him.

About 13 years ago — could it be more? — there was a gay bar/disco/show lounge in Oakland, called Zephyr. Some really top-notch entertainment could be enjoyed there on weekends.

The staff and management of Revol and the staff and management of Zephyr became quite close, and much time was spent at both sites by those involved.

One such evening, after thoroughly enjoying a set by Diana Caparelli — or was it David Reign (the memory does fade, doesn't it?) — and after several scotch and waters, I approached Gene Earl when he delivered the *B.A.R.* to the Zephyr. I mentioned that there was so much going on in the East Bay that wasn't being covered, and wasn't there something he could do to write more about it.

Well, his time was limited, naturally, and his Spartan contributions would have to suffice unless... unless what? He said to me, "Asshole (it was a term of endearment) if you want to see more about the East Bay in the *B.A.R.*, have a column ready for me next month."

I had just enough imbibing to accept his challenge, and the next month I had a very amateurish contribution for him. Much to my surprise, most of it was actually printed the following issue and Gene asked me to do another. This went on for a few months and then I was rewarded (?) with my own byline and I was placed in the masthead of regular contributors to *B.A.R.*

In a nutshell, that's how yours truly actually got started. It was a combination of alcohol, my big mouth, Gene's friendship and a willingness on the *B.A.R.*'s part to accept a contribution on a regular basis and the love and support of a very understanding spouse.

It was difficult to begin with. Working a fulltime day job, helping oversee the operations of a bar/restaurant at night, maintaining some semblance of a home life and going to almost every event and function that took place in the East Bay. It was difficult to begin with and it remained so. The



Peter Palm a.k.a. Nez Pas

B.A.R. changed from bi-weekly to weekly. Ol' Nez rolled with not only those punches, but also punches from the gay populace of the East Bay who thought that I was writing too much or that I wasn't writing enough!

There were many times that my spouse and I would have much rather stayed at home, but we "had" to go so I could write about the function/event. Don't get me wrong. There are lots of fond memories that I

wouldn't trade for anything; knowing Billy DeFrank and the birth of ACIE; East Bay Assistance Foundation; meeting Sharon McNight in Honolulu and reminiscing about the Zephyr Club; the Chili Cook-Offs (Revol, Lake Merritt Hotel, T&C); Lou Green with his friendship and assistance, not to mention his monthly bar guide; Big Mama Jim McGowan, bus trips to the Russian River and Reno; Red & White Ball where the "Outstanding Heart" of a particular year was announced — Jeff Bump was the first and I was the second — there were more, alas; all of the gals vs. boys softball games; Tavern Guild picnics; and the gatherings at dinners and parties of all the *B.A.R.* staff, hosted by publisher Bob Ross.

For several years, Gene Earl would pick up my column and deliver it to the *B.A.R.* office. Alas, a serious operation proved unsuccessful and Gene was taken from us. I was left to my own devices to get the col-

umn over the bridge to San Francisco. First, on time, then late ... every damn week!

I am proud to say that since my relationship with *B.A.R.*, I have been printed every issue except for four times! One was when the column got burned when Gene Earl's van caught fire and two times because of space limitations, and just recently when I had to be in New York and didn't have the time to get one written.

I've "gone through" at least eight to 10 different editors, filled up two 3-inch binders and 5 computer disks, attended every ACIE/ISE coronation, went to more functions/events than anyone could possibly count, met many wonderful people and quite a few phonies/assholes, put wear and tear on my car and always delivered my column on time. There were even a few times when I had to mail it in from out of state.

It has been an extremely rewarding experience, but at the same time a wearisome time, too. My lower Ralph and I are at the point where we want to stay home. After all these years, we are dragged

(pun intended) and functioned out.

Nez Pas is going to hang up the old typewriter and this is my last regular, weekly column. It's been a long, long association with *B.A.R.* and this old girl is getting tired. It's time for some fresh, young blood with a different outlook and a different viewpoint to write about the "mysterious" East Bay. I had thought about giving it up last year, but I made a commitment to Empress XI Timmy and I had to fulfill that entrustment.

Someone else can write about titles that appear, disappear, reappear and disappear again; someone else can mention that dollars are raised all over the place but too few account for those dollars. Someone else can state that for some strange reason "queens" can be ripped off by certain individuals and turn right around and embrace and kiss the asses of those who shit on them! Someone else can bitch and complain about most events and functions that do not start on time, cater to the habitually late and are a direct insult to

(Continued on page 30)

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Lobbyists

(Continued from page 2)

White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act of 1990, was to funnel \$4.5 billion during the next five years to areas disproportionately affected by the epidemic and provide for a series of HIV early intervention programs.

But recently left unfunded by a key Senate Appropriations subcommittee, the prospects for financing the measure any time in the next five years now look bleaker than ever.

"The odds are that we won't be fighting for money for the CARE bill," said another AIDS lobbyist, "we'll be fighting to hold onto the president's initial budget request for AIDS spending," which was substantially lower than what AIDS activists would have liked.

What AIDS lobbyists are working for at this point is a more generous final budget package so that when the Senate Appropriations Committee is ready to again take up the bill containing the bulk of the nation's AIDS spending, they will have a higher total dollar figure to deal with.

"We're basically where we were before: still fighting to get whatever money there is from the budget agreement," said Rene Durazzo, director of public policy for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. "Nobody seems to be quite clear what that is, at this point, for the CARE bill. ... It should be at the very top of the list, given the fact that the full Senate did vote for the

CARE bill and did agree that AIDS is a disaster that has to be dealt with today."

With a more generous package, AIDS lobbyists hope there will be the funds to finance the CARE bill this year.

Without higher total figures for health programs, however, an expected amendment from Sens. Alphonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.), Brock Adams (D-Wash.) and Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.), which will seek to fund the package, will have to siphon off dollars from other needy social programs.

And that's an option from which AIDS activists quickly recoil and call a "divide and conquer mentality."

At a meagerly attended ACT UP-sponsored press conference on the Capitol steps Oct. 3, a handful of AIDS and gay activists railed against Congress for not funding the CARE package, calling their overwhelming approval of the measure and prompt defunding of the bill "hypocrisy."

"We will not make Sophie's Choice among vital programs," said Tim McFeeley, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, comparing having to choose between social programs to the fictional tale of a woman being forced by Nazis to choose which one of her two children would live and which one would die.

"We are angry," added Urvasi Vaid, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

The Senate Appropriations Committee, pending approval of a budget agreement, is scheduled to meet no earlier than Oct. 15. ▼

Oct. 6

(Continued from page 2)

Ness Avenue, one intoxicated transient who decided to hassle the group was quickly arrested and transported to the Hall of Justice.

As the crowd neared the Castro, some motorists began to honk in support of the protest, while others quickly made U-turns to get out of the way of activists who formed human chains to block the traffic while the demonstration passed traffic lights.

In an ugly incident at the Market Street Safeway, a small handful of sailors, on shore leave during Fleet Week, harangued the protest from the parking lot fence.

"We're war lovers. Nuke Iraq," one young man yelled. "Fuck you, assholes," another sailor taunted. "Why don't you homos go back. ..."

The young man was interrupted by a companion, who told him to shut up and the activists to "go about their own trips."

Upon arrival at the Harvey Milk Plaza, some activists held a die-in, and other activists spray painted messages on Castro Street and in the intersection of 18th and Market.

Following the uneventful protest, the group held a street party on Castro Street.

On Oct. 3 San Francisco Police Commission President Lou Jiraulo assured gay activists that there would be two commissioners present at the demonstration, but no commissioners were observed in attendance. ▼

Nez

(Continued from page 29)

those who are on time; someone else can relay the information blabbed over the phone at 6:30 a.m. on a Saturday morning. Someone else can wear the blame for misspelling of names because NOBODY gives the writer a list of the participants. Then, again, perhaps no one really cares about all of that?

Miss the hectic routine? You bet! Regret the decision? I think not. At my age, I won't mind at all sailing on an even keel! Home is where the heart is, and believe it or not, I do have a heart — and it's in our home.

Thank you Bob Ross for allowing me my time and space. I may be gone tomorrow, but that won't mean that I wasn't here today. I can smile at that because my countdown is finished. ▼

Greater Bay Calendar

FRIDAY 12

- **'Terrace Dance':** Join us for the closing celebration of San Jose State University's Gay & Lesbian Awareness Week. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. \$3, 18+ w/ID. SJSU Spartan Complex Women's Gym. Wheelchair access. Call (408) 236-2002.
- **'Arsenic and Old Lace':** Cary Grant discovers his two spinster aunts are easing the loneliness of elderly men—a black comedy of high effect! 8 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 465-6400.
- **'Savage Wilds, Part II':** Black playwright Ishmael Reed's acclaimed comedy. Thru Oct. 14, plays Fri. & Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 3:30 p.m. BMT Theatre, 3629 San Pablo Ave., Emeryville. Call 654-6172.
- **'The Book as Form, Device, Idea':** Presentations of their work by artists Maria Porges, Amy Gerstler, Drew Beattie & Daniel Davidson. 8 p.m. \$4 donation. Small Press Distribution, 1814 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 549-3336.
- **African American Art:** Paintings, drawings & masks by five nationally shown No. California artists. Reception today, 6-10 p.m. On view thru Nov. 30. XYZ Gallery, 106 Linden St., Suite 204, Oakland. 272-0290.

SATURDAY 13

- **Walk For Choice!** Get free t-shirt if you raise \$25 in pledges. Meet at Park Plaza, downtown San Jose. Reg. 8 a.m., begin 10 a.m., rally 12 p.m. A fundraiser for South Bay pro-choice groups. Call (408) 739-6505.
- **Oakland-Berkeley Rainbow Coalition:** Enjoy light supper & discussion by travelers to Korea & Cuba. 6:30 p.m. Humanist Hall, 390 27th St., Oakland. 763-0142.
- **Infinity & John Fischer:** Contemporary Gospel music. 8 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 893-2300. 465-6400.

SUNDAY 14

- **Africa Oye:** Representing 8 tribes from Africa, the troupe celebrates African history in its performance of traditional music, song, dance & mimicry in authentic costumes. 2:30 p.m. \$16-22. Memorial Auditorium, Stanford University campus. 725-ARTS.
- **A Different 'Angle' on Harpsichord:** MusicSources presents Don Angle playing unlikely modern tunes on the harpsichord. Dinner 5 p.m., \$30; show & dessert 6:30 p.m., \$15. Yoshi's, 6030 Clairemont Ave., Oakland. 528-1685.

MONDAY 15

- **'The Presence of the Goddess':** Film by Christy Baldwin, tells the untold story of the Goddess in the Western World. 7:30 p.m. \$5. Hammond Hall, Episcopal Church of Our Savior, 10 Old Mill Rd., Mill Valley. Becky, 388-1628, or Janie, 457-1115.
- **African American Art:** Paintings, drawings & masks by Bay Area artists Horace Washington, Foad Satterfield, Anitra Blayton, Kemt Amenophis, Duane Foster, Candi Farlane. On view thru Nov. 30. XYZ Gallery, 106 Linden, Oakland. 272-0290.
- **City Council Candidates' Forum:** Sponsored by the Santa Cruz Lesbian & Gay Community Center, Lesbian & Gay Action Alliance, Matrix Women's Newsmagazine. Loudon Nelson all-purpose room. 7:30 p.m. Call (408) 425-LGCC.

TUESDAY 16

- **Fuente Ovejuna:** by Spanish playwright Lope de Vega, a compelling tale of a peasant revolt led by a young woman against tyrannical military oppression. Thru Oct. 25, plays Tue.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 & 7 p.m. \$16-27. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison, Berkeley. 845-4700.

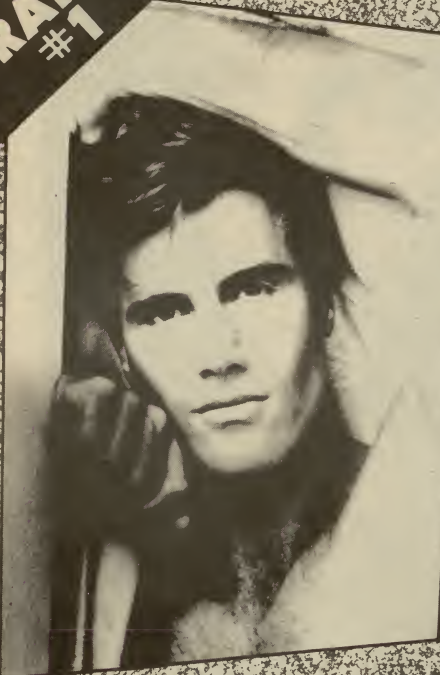
WEDNESDAY 17

- **'Angry Housewives':** A smash hit musical comedy—the longest running show in San Jose history. Plays Wed.-Fri. at 8 p.m., Sat. at 5:30 & 8 p.m. \$10.50-15. Eulipia Theatre, 380 South First St., Downtown San Jose. (408) 293-2110.
- **University of California Gay & Lesbian Alumni Assn.:** Meeting, lecture, officer elections at 7 p.m. Gay Senior VP The Tribune News Roy Aarons at 7:30 p.m. Free. Alumni House, UC Berkeley. 547-2200.
- **East Bay Nude Figure Drawing Sessions:** Every Wednesday, 7-10 p.m., at 217 5th St./Jackson, Oakland. For info or reservations call 465-7382.
- **ACT UP! East Bay:** Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at a new, permanent space at First Unitarian Church of Oakland, 14th & Castro (3 blks west of Broadway), Oakland. 420-8864.

THURSDAY 18

- **Longtime Companion:** Benefits the Contra Costa County AIDS Community Network. 7 p.m. \$10. Contra Costa Cinema, 555 Center Ave., Martinez.

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Trials

(Continued from page 4)

their worth and that approval would mean that people would start combining them with each other and with AZT on an ad hoc basis.

"Combining may enhance the effects of each one, but it might also increase the toxicities," Jacobson warned. "If everybody's making combinations on their own, how will we learn anything?"

The next panel, "Exploring Options: Participants' Perspective," in contrast brought a chorus of complaints about drug trial operations.

Carla Abbotts, Fred Guisande and Jono Weiss all had unpleasant experiences to relate concerning their contact with clinical trials.

Weiss, who works with Project Inform, ended up not participating in any, opting for underground treatment by his physician instead, whereas Abbotts and Guisande both complained of dire side effects, lack of information and no emotional support.

"Don't talk at them; talk to them," Guisande said, referring to the medical personnel conducting the tests. "Let them know that you're not just a mouse, but a person. You do have a life, and that's why you're there."

Guisande eventually succeeded in negotiating a change in his drug regimen when the side effects became intolerable.

Abbotts had to confront complete denial in one study that her experimental drug had anything to do with her sudden problems. She was also in another study, to test the much hyped CD4, that was continued far beyond the point when it became obvious that the treatment did nothing.

Few Minorities Represented

One of the emotional issues left unaddressed by the trials was that Abbotts was the only woman in her studies and Guisande the only Asian in his.

The barriers to participation by marginalized populations were taken up by other members of the panel.

Laura Thomas of ACT UP/San Francisco advocated greater recruitment of women in drug studies so that the special effects of both drug and disease on female bodies could be investigated.

Reggie Williams of Black and White Men Together described how gay men of color are alienated from the medical system through lack of information and previous negative experiences with health care administration.

Barry Lawlor described ways his organization, the Haight Ashbury Free Clinic, is trying to make clinical trials available to drug addicts.

Observing that many treatment trial officials don't like injection drug users, Lawlor

asked, "Are we trying to suit ourselves or the people we're trying to serve?"

He thought it was important to get his clients enrolled in experimental trials because, "(the trials) at least buy you time."

Underlying this discussion and others was the idea that in reality, most people sign up for trials to get early access to promising treatments for their incurable disease, rather than to abstractly serve the cause of science.

This makes for an inevitable clash of interests with the researchers, who are working from a strictly scientific viewpoint, as Jacobson and Adams demonstrated.

This divergence was not explicitly taken up until the last half hour of the day, however, when Michelle Roland spoke at one of the concluding sessions, "Who Has the Power?"

'Messy Truth'

Noting that patients frequently break trial restrictions to get better treatment or avoid placebos, Roland said, "We have to admit to this messy truth and start designing realistic clinical trials that do a better job at meeting people's needs in terms of taking care of them, even if they're messier to analyze."

Roland suggested that trials be made more flexible, to account for new discoveries announced elsewhere while the trial is under way and for greater individual variation from the established protocol. She also called for a change in trial endpoints.

"Especially in a blinded trial, how sick do you have to get before the investigators figure out which treatment you're getting and offer you the other treatment?" Roland asked. "That's something that every patient and every activist should be demanding."

Roland's sentiment that something is basically wrong was supported by two other panel members, Dr. Gifford Leong, who was the principal investigator in the original trial of aerosolized pentamidine, and Dr. Roger Williams, who is conducting Compound Q tests for its American manufacturer.

While warning that "people reach conclusions too readily. They should wait for all the data," Williams also admitted that "a lot of work gets done that isn't really necessary."

Likewise, Leong lamented, "Sometimes you just know that something's right, but you have to keep on collecting data just to cover every possible objection."

Saturday's event seemed very informative for those attending. The research organizations that set up tables there were clearly eager to find new subjects for the legion of tests now in progress, but the question of whether clinical trials can ever meet HIVers' needs was left unanswered. ▼

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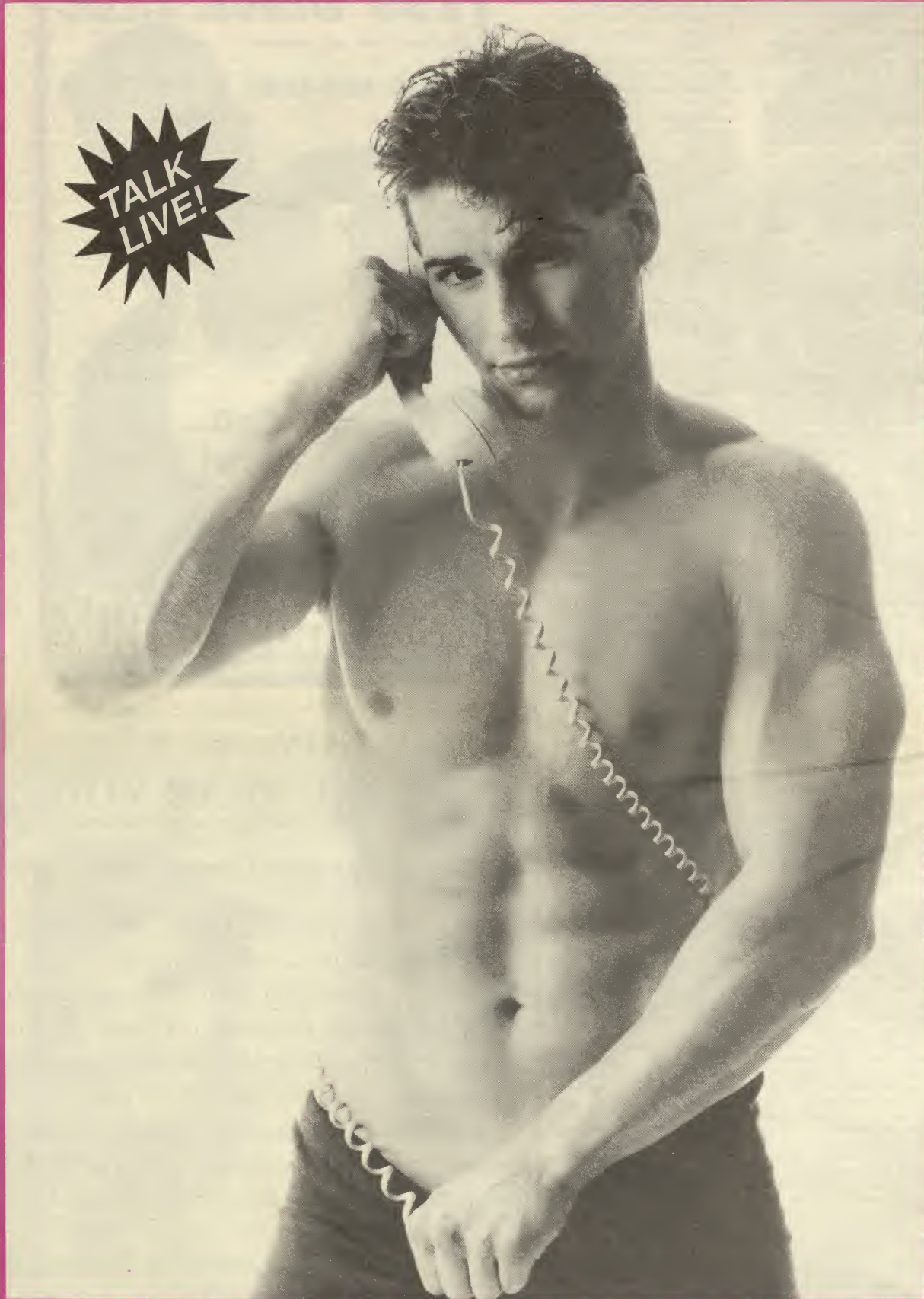
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Bay Area Reporter Arts & Entertainment



Yes, gay men and women can rub elbows and bump booties without undesirable friction...

Dressing Up and Acting Out

Musings on the New Queer Age of Co-Gender Clubbing

by Lily Braindrop

We're all enlightened folks here in this fair city. Aren't we? Lesbians and gay men united, socially integrated and interacting together at the super-social nighttime level. Well, I thought so, anyway, and so went on a recent trek — an anthropological junket, so to speak — through clubland to prove my hypothesis and get you the news on co-gender clubbing as it's known in the trade.

By the end of my journey, my pro-integration spirits were pretty low, as it turns out that most clubs offer zippo in terms of mixed-sex hip hopping — pretty sad news in the '90s, I'd say.

But my investigative romp wasn't a total bust, as two precious exceptions to the largely separatist club rule screeched their way into my p.m. consciousness and warmed the cockles of my trendy little heart.

These two exceptional exceptions are the sibling one-nighters (as in one night a week) Club Chaos (Thursday nights at the Crystal Pistol, 842 Valencia) and Club Uranus (Sunday nights at the End Up, corner of 4th and Harrison). These two clubs seem to draw healthy numbers of either or any gender (with a slightly higher male attendance at Chaos), and all the attendees mesh together in a very cozy, campy way. The crowd is

It's thrilling to see clubs like Uranus and Chaos reduce the separatist battle of the sexes to a heated tussle over who gets to use the hairspray first.

young, at the very least colorful, and militantly fun. And promoters/DJs Mike and Lewis, who work both nights, like it that way.

A Heeded Call

Upon having their brains picked by yours truly, Mike and Lewis divulged that the mixed crowd at their clubs is no accident. Firmly maintaining that mixed gender equals more fun, they take great pains to promote their clubs among both the men and women of the gay community. They encourage people to dress up and act out when they come to Chaos and Uranus, and that call is heeded, in excess.

If you're intrigued by the thought of co-gender clubbing,

but are skittish about getting your glamour on and having your gender bent, potential club-goer beware. It's not unusual to trip into Uranus and see a mingling of buzz-cut, pierced, Doc Marten-clad women, boys in stiletto heels and football jerseys, and queens in sky-high platforms sporting two-foot bouffant wigs (altitude as well as attitude, dontcha know).

The male and female go-go dancers bump and grind together blissfully, and the folks on the dance floor follow suit. The look is wickedly eclectic; the feel is deliciously confusing; and both clubs are consistently crowded. I think it's safe to say that Mike and

(Continued on page 46)



... and as a result, fun is a viable means for social evolution.

(Photos: Rick Gerharter)

Philip Kaufman's 'Henry and June'

A Lustful, Literary Triangle

by Noreen C. Barnes

She is bizarre, fantastic, nervous, like someone in a high fever. Her beauty drowned me. ... I feel she does not know what to do when confronted with these legends which are born around her face and body; she feels unequal to them. ... She lacks confidence, she craves admiration insatiably. She lives on the reflections of herself in the eyes of others. She does not dare to be herself.

In her famous diary, this is how Anais Nin described June Miller, who served as a rather demanding muse for the erotic writings of both Nin and June's husband, Henry Miller. June is caught between what she perceives to be a too graphic "distortion" of herself, created by her husband, and the poetic abstractions of Nin. Both claim they are writing the truth about her; in the process, Anais and Henry dis-

cover some truths about themselves.

Director and screenwriter (along with his wife Rose) Philip Kaufman's *Henry and June*, based on "the unexpurgated and long-suppressed sections" of Nin's diary, is a sensual, beautifully filmed portrait of this love, lust and literary triangle set against the backdrop of Paris in the early 1930s, which effectively captures a time bursting with creative endeavors, sexual freedom and the distant rumblings of war.

Anais Nin (Maria de Medeiros) is a bored housewife, whose American husband, Hugo (Richard E. Grant, blue-eyed, freckled, with a touch of the young Jimmy Stewart), happily works as a banker so that his wife can write.

Sexual Awakening

Her sexual coming of age begins with the discovery of a box of erotic photographs (one is recognizable as the



Two-thirds of a triangle: Maria de Medeiros, left, as Anais Nin and Uma Thurman is June Miller in the new film *Henry and June*.

cover photo for her collection of erotic short stories, *The Delta of Venus*). Then she meets Henry Miller (Fred Ward), an American writer, unpublished at the age of forty. As she writes in her diary at the beginning of the film, "It began so innocently."

Ward is brilliant as Miller, and plays him as a rather crass Brooklynite — brash, rough-edged and parasitic. Anais discovers his other side, however.

In one instance she finds him in a movie house with tears streaming down his face. In another Miller identifies with Antonin Artaud's performance as a monk in *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc*, especially with the "demon" in Artaud's haunting eyes.

Anais describes Henry as "virile, flamboyant, a man life intoxicates." As her obsession with him grows, so too does her desire for a sense of cruelty and pain to fuel her work. Truth or lies — she doesn't care — she just craves more, and her affair with Miller improves sex with her husband.

Hugo remains blissfully ignorant of her affair. He's pleasantly surprised by her voracious sexual appetite and eager to please, though he continues to call her by the irritating nickname, "Pussywillow." Henry, in contrast, mispronounces her name "Anise."

Anais and Henry's affair unfolds amid the brothels, cafes, narrow streets and constant blue cigarette smoke of

Paris. Philippe Rousselot's cinematography creates a heady atmosphere of light, shadow, fog and reflections in mirrors and glass surfaces — a simply stunning achievement matched by some remarkable performances.

The Perfect Nin

As Anais, Maria de Medeiros is perfect, with a tiny, delicate frame and round face that combine angelic wide-eyed innocence with languid desire — so like Nin. And every time she's in bed with someone, she is rediscovering that innocence through fulfilling her desires.

In striking contrast is Uma Thurman's June, a large, blonde, big-boned American with a seductive stare. Her walk is a catlike saunter; Brooklynese "swells" and "sortas" issue from her full lips. She wants her husband to be Dostoevski, to "sing my praises."

June is something of a vampire, turning quickly on Anais and Henry when she realizes that Anais has taken her request to "take care of Henry for me" before a trip back to America quite literally. But it is easy to see why this woman had such a hold on the two writers who tried to do her justice in their work. Her presence lingers long after she is gone.

Anais obsesses about June during her absences, dreaming of her, blurring her image with that of a prostitute in a temperature-soaring en-

counter. The women's evening at a lesbian nightclub is one of the film's best scenes; they dance together, surrounded by classic butch/femme couples.

At one point, Hugo remarks to Anais that "you fall in love with people's minds," and it is the cerebral attraction to Henry Miller, her desire to help him get published and their sharing of their writings (she finally shows her diary to him) that are as sexy and satisfying as their frequent and spontaneous couplings.

Henry and June is the first film to get the NC-17 rating, but I couldn't honestly discern what was so "X" about it. Those scenes that had been cited as objectionable (three of the five were lesbian in nature) were very carefully, "artfully" if you will, photographed.

Perhaps the expression of a woman's sexuality, when she functions as a free, autonomous being, is viewed as being somehow threatening, subversive and thus deserving of the "X." How ironic that the film itself concerns the censoring of a writer and brings up the question of what is art/what is obscenity. As Henry Miller says in *Henry and June*, "The only true obscenity is war." ▼

Henry and June
Kabuki, and elsewhere
931-9800



Maria de Medeiros with director Philip Kaufman during a pause in the shooting of *Henry and June*.

Black Films And Videos Sought

The Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame is inviting entries for its 1991 Film, Video and Screenplay Competition. The competition jury will examine submittals from local, national and international aspiring film and video artists in a variety of categories including Features, Animation, Music, Foreign and Television.

In keeping with the goals of BFHOFI, the competition is intended to discover, encourage and assist in expanding opportunities for Black filmmakers who address the rich complexity and variety of Black culture.

Deadline for entries is November 5, 1990, twelve o'clock noon. Additional information and official entry forms are available from BFHFI, 405 Fourteenth Street, Suite 515, Oakland, California 94612; Telephone 415/465-0804. ▼

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FILM

Foiled by The Past

by Warren Sonbert

Evidence to the contrary, one heads to the movies in search of originality and intelligence, with only the highest and most sincere hopes for the director and cast. The causes of one's not-so-occasional disappointments are myriad, but very often a film's demise comes down to one of two things: 1) failure to say something new — not necessarily the worst of crimes unless there's 2) a failure to do something interesting with the old.

Three recent films dealt with the "old" in three different ways. One looked at a filmmaker's past, another was a remake, and a third recreated the behind the scenes goings-on during the making of one of Hollywood's most legendary films. The results of these looks backward were less than scintillating, although in each case for different reasons.

Kneejerk Nostalgia

Barry Levinson's *Avalon* uses nostalgia as a kneejerk tic: If it's the '50s this must be *Remembrance of Good Things Past*. Following in the footsteps of Woody Allen, Paul Mazursky, John Boorman and Federico Fellini, each of whom has covered this territory before — and better — Levinson shouts "Me too!"

And shout is the operative word. What Paul Verhoeven does with exploding bodies in *Total Recall*, Levinson achieves here with the empty hooting and screaming of his interchangeable characters. I haven't heard so much kvetching since Paddy Chayevsky shuffled off to tsuris heaven.

Levinson explores the haute bourgeois world of Jewish business entrepreneurs in Baltimore after the War. A touching subject. But here, amid nonstop tinkling piano and lush strings, Levinson discovers how he grew up to be endearing film material — even if no one else does.



Remembrance of Good Things Past: Nostalgic look back in Barry Levinson's *Avalon*.

The director as little boy character is sweetness personified. He's kind to girls fresh from the refugee camps and even nobly confesses to starting a fire that burns down his father's spic 'n' span new department store. ("You cancelled the store insurance?" "Yes I cancelled the insurance!" I'm fighting back the tears just recalling all this. It turns out that he *didn't* cause the conflagration, but that just gives his father a chance too to be a *mensch* in recognizing what an honorable son he's fortunate to have sired. No Bad Seed he.

And this honorable lad grew up to win Oscars and make development deals. And follow in the footsteps of his mercantile background after all.

To give it some due, the film looks great and is only corrupt in execution rather than spirit. The actors overdo everything with their grand gestures and foghorn vocalizing. Shameless sentimentalizing has a contained lifespan.

★ ★ ★

I love thrillers and I wanted to like *Narrow Margin* but not only does the low-budget 1952 orig-

inal by Richard Fleischer stand head and shoulders above the 1990 edition, but Peter Hyams' outing doesn't even succeed on its own limited terms.

A woman (Anne Archer) witnesses her blind date's gangland murder and must flee from contract killers out to dispose of her. Police honcho Gene Hackman is assigned to protect her en route from a wilderness hideout to the "safety" of the courtroom. Via a variety of flimsy rationales, they must journey by train from Banff to Malibu.

Remarkably little suspense is generated and the confined spaces are barely used for any potential schematic counterpoint to the great surrounding Canadian Rockies scenery. Archer and Hackman are both personable, professional presences but the villains are pale and inconsequential in threat potential. Barely anything has resonance.

When Hackman escapes into some woman's sleeper, instead of turning it into a pleasantry a la *North By Northwest*, the scene goes for naught — neither humorous nor edgy nor plot and/or mood enhancing. The film

(Continued on page 63)



High Steppin'

Members and guests of City College's Gay and Lesbian Association partied hard at the group's on-campus dance Oct. 5. The festivities included music by Mixed Up, a special guest appearance by the High Risk Performance Group and an array of go-go boys and girls.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Network Show Does Gays a Good Turn

by Karl Bruce Knapper

Wonders never cease. On Oct. 4, NBC aired an episode of one of its new fall television shows, *Law and Order*, that dealt sensitively and realistically with gay men and two of our issues — specifically AIDS and euthanasia.

Law and Order's basic premise is to follow different cases through the legal system, first from the perspective of the cops, and then from the perspective of the D.A.'s office. This particular episode dealt effectively and non-judgmentally with the controversial and legally nebulous issue of mercy killing. What started out as a routine police investigation of a robbery/homicide turned out to be a not-so-routine case of assisted suicide.

What made this show different from most of television's handling of gay and lesbian issues was the fact that it was neither preachy nor maudlin. Even TV's best efforts at depicting our lives and circumstances have ultimately been overly sentimental and instructional — geared more toward an ignorant and predominantly heterosexual mainstream audience rather than a well-informed and self-aware lesbian/gay one.

Intelligent Look

Law and Order managed, in the space of an hour, to take an intelligent look at euthanasia, a difficult, divisive and potentially explosive issue within the larger subject of AIDS, without trying to wrap everything up and have all the answers by the end of the hour.

Peter Frechette, the actor who played the man accused of the euthanasia, seems to be making a career out of playing gay characters. On *L.A. Law*

he played a man accused of mercy killing his lover who was dying of AIDS, and he was the man with whom David Marshall Grant's character (Russell) slept with last year on the episode of *thirtysomething* that was pulled from reruns this summer.

The simple robbery/homicide became a mercy killing. It turned out that one character had also assisted two other gay men with AIDS in killing themselves.

In between, he did play a heterosexual blue-collar New Jerseyite on the short-lived drama series *Dream Street*, but he obviously does not have the typical actor's aversion to playing gay roles. Good for him.

Law and Order is not a fast-paced, shoot-'em-up type of series. It is gritty realistic in its portrayal of the legal system, something like a more intellectual *Hill Street Blues* or a less glitzy *L.A. Law*; its color palette is strictly one of grays, with muted or bleached-out color for accent.

As the investigation slowly unfolded, it was hard not to get



From left, Christopher Noth, George Dzundza, Michael Moriarty and Richard Brooks star in NBC's *Law and Order*.

caught up in the ever more complicated twists and turns of the plot. The simple robbery/homicide became a mercy killing. It turned out that Peter Frechette's character had also assisted two other gay men with AIDS in killing themselves.

The mother of the suicide on which the show focused had deluded herself about her son's homosexuality and wanted his "killer" punished, while the father, who was aware of his son's sexual orientation and had initially been approached by his son to assist in his suicide, thought the man should be set free. One gay activist thought the D.A.'s office was harassing the defendant, while another thought that

Peter Frechette's character had overstepped some ethical boundaries. Then it was revealed that the defendant also had AIDS.

'Justice' Served

In the meantime, the D.A.'s office, represented by actors Michael Moriarty and Richard Brooks, tried to cope with the legal ramifications of a subject (euthanasia) on which the judicial system has not definitively ruled. By the end, "justice" had been served, and the defendant was found guilty of a nominal charge and given a suspended sentence, but it turned out that the District Attorney had caused vital information to be leaked

to the defense attorney that had allowed her to get her client the much lighter, and, from her show's point of view, correct verdict.

Surprisingly, there were no pat answers to the moral questions euthanasia raises. Nor was there any of the typical liberal posturing on the issue of sexual orientation (e.g., "What people do in their own bedrooms is their own business").

If this episode was any example, NBC has a well-done dramatic series on its hands, though probably not a ratings hit. The acting, writing and directing are good, and one can only hope that quality will win out in the end. ▼

Gay/Lesbian Programs

Deep Dish TV

Monday, Oct. 15, 8 p.m., SF Viacom 25: A new weekly program of interest to lesbians and gay men. Part 9 of a series on racism, *Chain...Chain...Change*, from anti-fascist skinheads to Rock Against Racism, youth use music to agitate and educate for change.

Helping Hands

Monday, 7 p.m., SF Viacom 6
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., SF Viacom 6

Messiah Theatre Presents

Friday, 10:30 p.m., SF Viacom 25: DeJohn Messiah and entourage create a whirlwind video montage on the cutting-edge of gay artistic expression.

Here to Stay

Thursday, (2nd, 4th), 10 p.m., SF Viacom 25: Interview with Ruther Brinker, Project Open Hand founder.

Outlook

Tuesday, (1st) 10 p.m., Sacramento Cable 63
Wednesday, (1st, 3rd) 9 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, East Bay)
Thursday, 8:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Friday, (2nd, 4th) 7:30 p.m., Los Altos, Cupertino Cable 30;
(2nd, 4th) 5 p.m., San Jose Cable 2B
Saturday, (1st & 3rd) 8:30 p.m., Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton, East Palo Alto, Stanford & Ladera M-PAC Cable 6

Electric City

Sunday, 10 p.m., SF Viacom 35
Tuesday, 10 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Wednesday, 8 p.m., SF Viacom 35: Examination of the death of the Ryan White AIDS appropriations bill; fun & excitement from the E.C. cast crazies.

Hibernia Beach/Rubyfruit Terrace

Sunday, 7 a.m., KITS 105.3 FM: Issues of concern to gay men and lesbians alternates every week.

Fruit Punch

Wednesday, 10 p.m., KPFA 94.1 FM: News, interviews, reviews.

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Festival 2000's Opera House Kickoff

An Auspicious Debut

by Eric Hellman

Festival 2000, San Francisco's first-ever, city-wide celebration of multicultural arts, made an auspicious — and symbolic — debut at the War Memorial Opera House Saturday night, Oct. 6. Billed as "Sole Night," it was an evening of heartfelt words, brilliant imagery and sometimes equally vibrant dancing.

The festival's opening also raised a host of tricky questions concerning its organizers' artistic ambitions and administrative skills. It was the type of event that challenges a writer to walk the line between political sensitivity and critical honesty.

The easiest to discuss, most pleasurable aspects of "Sole Night" were found in the performers, including the American Indian Dance Theatre, DanceBrazil, the Muntu Dance Theatre and a clever, brief opening ensemble of Malonga Casquelourd, Chitresh Das, Rosa Montoya and Keith Terry, choreographed by Carlos Carvajal. Access to the artists was, however, another matter.

"Sole Night" began more than 40 minutes after its scheduled starting time due, apparently, to the box office staff's inability to process ticket sales. The program was further delayed by a series of unnecessary welcoming remarks, followed by state Assemblyman Willie Brown's self-conscious, poorly prepared introduction of the dancer and choreographer Katherine Dunham. Miss Dunham, now in her 80s and confined to a wheelchair, served as the evening's hostess, delivering sincere if rambling remarks before each of the program's two sections.

Artistic Triumph

Artistically, the great tri-

umph of the festival's opening night was the American Indian Dance Theatre performing a series of traditional — but fully theatricalized — Native American dances. Directed by Hanay Geiogamah, the Indian dance troupe has transformed what were once essentially social and religious experiences into the different space-time requirements of a modern stage. Opening with a short "duel" between two drummers, the presentation consisted of considerably shortened, seamlessly merged versions of several ritual dances.

It was difficult, however, to follow the exact sequence of dances, as the festival's printed program did not correspond to the selected works. Still, a dance for two warriors was notable for its visceral excitement and speed, encouraging dancers to devour huge chunks of space while using a light, traveling skip step. The Warrior Dance ended with a quiet, poignant message of universal human folly: a squaw appeared in a silent tableau, cradling the body of her just slain mate.

The Indian dancers also wore vibrant, stereotype-cracking costumes. Feathers, fringe and beads still predominated, but they were integrated with an explosion of vivid colors, especially lemon yellow, turquoise and red. And there wasn't a single Hollywood headress in sight.

Questionable Successes

The evening's other two featured performers were DanceBrazil, an ensemble of capoeira acrobats and musicians, and the Chicago-based Muntu Dance Theatre. Both groups seemed a bit daunted by the size of the Opera House stage and the lack of intimacy with their audience. It also was difficult to understand why the festival's orga-



One of the triumphs of Sole Night, the kickoff for Festival 2000, was a performance by the American Indian Dance Theatre.

nizers felt these performers were suitable headlines for the opening night bill.

Capoeira is a Brazilian martial art, and although its presentation is immensely entertaining, even mesmerizing, DanceBrazil has done little to convincingly transform an experience of acrobatics into dance. The key performers were six gymnasts who displayed amazing physical dexterity — back flips, cartwheels, handstands and other spine-twisters covered the stage like confetti.

The high point of capoeira in performance (at least from my two most recent experiences) is the re-enactment of its social origins (capoeira was developed as a form of self-protection by slaves brought to Brazil from Angola who "disguised" its practice as a form of dance, according to program notes).

Thus, the DanceBrazil acrobats gathered in a semicircle, supported by a band of musicians and four "balianas" (or women in hoop skirts who

sashayed back and forth), and the boys then proceeded to fight it out. Their mock battles were very fast, seemingly very dangerous and celebrated macho bravado. As a variety act, capoeira worked well; as theatrical art, its successes were questionable at best.

The Muntu Dance Theatre, the evening's last featured performers, left me both surprised and disappointed. The company's press materials describe the group's focus as being the interpretation of "contemporary and ancient African and African-American dance."

But what I saw in their 25-minute piece, "African Swing," was a black version of the standard Vegas lounge act, complete with nightclub set, female vocalist, back-up band and several short interludes of vibrant Charleston swing. The work's primary references emphasized the ubiquitous, color-blind sweep of American commercial culture. And as a result, entertainment value seemed to out-

weigh artistic concerns.

The biggest problem that Festival 2000's opening night poses is the age-old dilemma of truth in advertising. Lenwood O. Sloan, festival director, has repeatedly stressed his desire to make the festival focus on contemporary artistic expression originating from multicultural performers. Yet the individuals presented on "Sole Night" tended to confirm either previous expectations of traditional, ethnic dance or offered variety act entertainment.

For example, instead of DanceBrazil or the Muntu Dance Theatre, why wasn't Garth Fagan Dance, or the Los Angeles Contemporary Dance Theatre, or the Hubbard Street Dance Company or even the Alvin Ailey Dance Company asked to perform? These are all vital groups from the multicultural arena who are currently defining contemporary expression in dance art.

Also, is the Opera House — despite its symbolic value — really the right venue for an emerging performance organization's presentations? Despite the inexcusable delay in starting time, the house was never more than 60 percent full.

And, finally, why was Chitresh Das (who performed briefly in the opening ensemble) the only representative of Asia's many cultures? These problems — both artistic and administrative — suggest a narrowing and clarification of focus may be in order.

Instead of presenting an estimated 200 performances at 50 events during a 22-day period, it may be more advantageous for future (anticipated) festivals to think smaller and better. Artistry, after all, is rarely determined by the size — or glitter — of its wrapping. ▼

Stretched and Stranded Benefit

Society's Bad Girls present their annual Halloween event, Stretched and Stranded, Saturday, Oct. 20, from 8 to 11 p.m. The event will be held at Cafe San Marcos, 2367 Market St. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. They are available at Cafe San Marcos or from any sponsor. All proceeds will be donated to the AIDS Emergency Fund. ▼

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Doug Holsclaw Goes Solo

Return of the Effeminate Man

by Kate Bornstein

"In straight culture," says playwright/performer Doug Holsclaw, "we're taught it's better to be a man than to be a woman. And in gay culture, in some ways, effeminate men are less than real — their feelings are less than real."

According to Holsclaw, misogyny can carry over into women's culture as well: "I've had a glimpse of the lesbian world, and there is some sort of power base for being butch. And all of this says that it's better to be a man than to be a woman."

Doug Holsclaw's performance of his new one-character play, *Don't Make Me Say Things That Will Hurt You*, opens at Josie's Cabaret Oct. 11. Onstage, Doug will be taking on misogyny, homophobia, AIDS, dildos, home-shopping clubs, straight people, attempted murder and the explicit sex of one-night stands — just the sort of stuff an average queer deals with every day in his or her life.

A Bearable Reality

"What the play is really about," says Holsclaw, "is the creating of a bearable reality for oneself in isolation, when the world becomes too much." He adds, with an appropriate flourish, "And it's a comedy!"

In his other works, *In the Summer When It's Hot and Sticky* and the award-winning *Life of the Party*, Holsclaw dealt with what he describes as the outer world of interpersonal relationships. In *Things*, we see the inner world.

Biting satire, riotous farce and C&W music illuminate a sort of two-step through the anguished mind of a lonely ef-

feminate man. "This is one bitter girl," the author says, shaking his head.

Holsclaw has been writing and performing for the past 15 years, and *Things* represents for him the reclamation of his own identity as an effeminate man. This is the first solo theatrical piece he will have both written and performed. He brings to the work his experience as actor, singer, dancer and stand-up comedian.

Doug began his acting career in Omaha, Nebraska, in the chorus of *No, No, Nanette*. "I was still in the closet," he recalls, "and there were all these chorus boys from Chicago in the production." Holsclaw says he was at first horrified by, then attracted to, their campy humor, style and their "wicked honesty."

From Omaha, Holsclaw moved to New York where he met up with the homophobic attitudes of mainstream theatre.

"My agent would tell me from time to time that some casting director had said I was 'too light,'" Holsclaw reminisces. "I was even told not to wear turtlenecks because 'they're too gay.'" So, the young actor learned not to cross his legs this way, not to dress that way — not to act gay.

A Successful Sissy

"And I left all that behind when I left New York and mainstream theatre to come to San Francisco 10 years ago," says Holsclaw. "All those things which had been negatives in my life are now pluses in my career."

"I write about intimate sexuality, about campiness and the queens, and the effeminate men and the politics around this." He laughs, shaking his head. "And I've been successful at this ever since I started in stand-up by being ... well, you know ... a big sissy."

Directed by ACT's Sabin Epstein and choreographed by Anne Bluethenthal, *Things* promises to be an exciting evening of queer theatre. "It's a work in progress," explains Holsclaw, who says he wants to learn from what people tell him about the show once they've seen it.

Having read the script, I tried to give him some feedback by likening his dramatic situations of entrapment and estrangement to those of Beckett or Sartre. After pausing thoughtfully, Doug grinned and said, "I wish I'd read those guys."

Holsclaw's work cuts close to the bone of heterosexist misogyny, is one-hundred percent original, bound to be entertaining, and quite likely a major breakthrough for queer theatre in the Bay Area.



New one-man show for Doug Holsclaw. (Photo: Shaul Van Essen)

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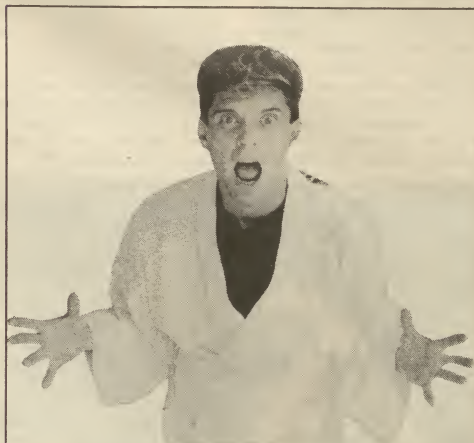
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Sing It, Sister!

by George Heymont

Gay music critics are often so busy looking for hidden hints of macho man-talk (repressed homosexual relationships) in opera that they ignore a more innocent form of same sex synergy: the dynamic of sisterly love.

One of the curious aspects of several operatic plots is the nourishing and non-sexual bonding between women who are sisters of the holy cloth or else sisters under the skin. Whether joining forces in prayer or merely doubling their efforts in pursuit of a husband, these women are champions at networking.

This factor came to light in recent productions of two rarely performed operas. Let's take a look at the stark contrast between two works in which sisterly love plays a cloying, though not overbearing, role.

Dangerous Liaisons

For years certain friends of

mine have sworn by the beauty of Donizetti's 58th opera, *Maria Padilla*. And they are quite correct; *Maria Padilla* is a musical gem.

This lust-driven opera (based on the passion between Spain's King Pedro the Cruel and his common-law wife) is as tuneful as Bellini's *Norma* or Rossini's *La Cenerentola*. The score is a cornucopia of beautiful solos, duets and ensembles, which conspire to leave the audience floating on a cloud of bel canto bliss. It is one of those rare, remarkable operatic creations in which delicious melodies keep cascading over the audience like sensual ripples of delight.

When *Maria Padilla* received its long overdue American premiere last month as part of Opera Omaha's "ALIVE!" festival, the performance was enhanced by a genuine sense of bel canto singing, delicious ornamentations and (thanks to John DeMain's conducting) a healthy dose of dramatic urgency.

Maria Padilla featured sets and costumes by John Pascoe, an extremely talented designer who has recently begun to develop a secondary career as a stage director. Despite his obvious enthusiasm for opera as an art form, Pascoe fares much better as a designer. Even when one takes into account the limited stage facilities of the Joslyn Art Museum's Witherspoon Concert Hall, his work as a director (which embraces an acting style that promotes grandiose gesticulating) borders on the amateurish.

The cast was comprised mostly of young American artists, with Stella Zambalis appearing as Maria's sister, Donna Ines. Hans Gregory Ashbaker performed the role of their father, Don Ruiz Padilla (one of the few tenors in the bel canto repertoire to be given a mad scene). Baritone Motti Kaston showed strong potential as Maria's lover, King Pedro of Spain, with small cameos coming from Arturo Valencia, Grace



Renee Fleming starred in Opera Omaha's production of *Maria Padilla*. Stella Zambalis is in the background.

Hinds and Robert McLoud.

Renee Fleming starred in the title role of this important revival. While this gifted soprano has the vocal agility to handle coloratura work with ease (Fleming's voice seems to be stretching more comfortably into the upper register these days), one can't help but be charmed by the warmth and heft of her voice — a quality one rarely encounters among lighter, canarylike sopranos.

Obviously, there are indications of future success in roles like Lucia, Elvira, Adina and Ophelia. A smart impresario would do well to consider casting Fleming as Handel's Cleopatra and let her sing the music that could fit her voice like a glove.

Nun But the Brave

While Pascoe's crude staging and several moments of youthful roughness may have scarred *Maria Padilla*, they were minor blemishes compared to the San Francisco Opera's pathetic production of *Suor Angelica*. While one could overlook the imperfections of the *Maria Padilla* production and be thankful for its musicological novelty and youthful enthusiasm, SFO's *Suor Angelica* caused audiences to roll their eyes in disbelief at the low level of artistry being displayed.

It's important to note that the embarrassing lack of artistry onstage during this

opera had little or nothing to do with the musicians' strike, which canceled the opening of the San Francisco Opera's fall season.

Originally planned as a vehicle for Mirella Freni, SFO's staging of Puccini's one-act religious tearjerker offers a stern reminder that, despite overwhelming financial and artistic resources, a major opera company can sink to appalling levels of mediocrity. Although Robert Perdziola designed an attractive set (sensitively lit by Thomas Munn), John Copley's stage direction failed to inspire little more than "acting by numbers" from his cast of insipid sisters.

While soprano Leona Mitchell's voice remains lush and full of potential, her sloppy vocal habits and rudimentary acting did little to communicate the intense anguish of Puccini's music.

And it was hard to tell which part of Elena Obraztsova's performance as the condescending Princess showed greater cruelty: the callow-hearted way in which the Russian mezzo-soprano informed *Suor Angelica* of the nun's son's death or the excruciating wobble in Obraztsova's voice.

Nello Santi conducted the orchestra rather monotonously, with affecting cameos coming from Donna Petersen's Sister Monitor and Heather Begg's stern Abbess. ▼



Leona Mitchell, left, and Elena Obraztsova in *Suor Angelica*.

(Photo: Marty Soh)

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Benson's Big Boss Beats

by David Taylor-Wilson

No matter what type of music's your favorite, it is hard to believe that anyone could consider big band music to be anything less than beautiful. It is truly an art form that will forever retain its appeal.

George Benson returns with a splendid homage to this music. And more than that, his homage also comes complete with a loving tribute to that late, great legend, Count Basie.

On *Big Boss Band*, Benson is backed by the Count Basie Orchestra in one of the grooviest, hippest, swingingest album sets to have come along in recent memory. But rather than cover Basie standards, Benson has instead opted for the Basie style. He has managed to shine an all-new spotlight on classics like Jackie Wilson's "Baby Workout," the Flamingos' "I Only Have Eyes for You" and the more recent Patti Austin/James Ingram duet, "How Do You Keep the Music Playing?"

As to be expected, the arrangements are lush and deeply moving, while the orchestration is utter perfection. One of the best works in Benson's career.

White Hot Funk to a Tee

For years, one of the most prolific talents in black music has been Teena Marie, whose fans lovingly refer to her as Lady Tee.

She is, in a sense, the female equivalent of George Michael — her blue-eyed soul having dominated the black music charts since the late '70s. Her new album, *Ivory*, is about to continue that pattern right on into the '90s.

Marie's fabulous, multioc-tave voice transcends all musical formats and becomes a true instrument that effortlessly delivers the lyrics.

Ivory has something for everyone. Already flying up the charts like a heat-seeking missile is the album's initial single release, "Here's Looking at You." Featuring a guest rap by Michael Bivins of Bell Biv DeVoe, Lady Tee is in fine funk form.

Waiting in the album wings, and a sure-shot hit, is "The Sugar Shack." Sort of an urbanized version of the B-52s' "Love Shack," this single jams. And for those who like to dance, but not sweat, Jazzie B. of Soul II Soul lent production talent to "Since Day One," another potential hit with Jazzie's trademark Afro-Caribbean tropical grooves.

Lady Tee will satisfy fans who have always admired her emotion-charged, belting ballads with "If I Were a Bell," the luscious "Cupid Is a Real Straight Shooter" and "Just Us Two."

Providing more evidence of her multiformat singing talents is the acoustic "How Can You Resist It." Sounding like a Joni Mitchell-Janis Ian-Rickie Lee Jones hybrid, Teena Marie comes off like a seasoned veteran and acquires yet another musical hat to wear in the process.

Bay City Beats

Our favorite Lady of the Beat, Jo-Carol is joined by Leo Frappier in a new single release, "Jump Up for Love," on the Megatone label. Brimming with electrifying Hi-NRG rhythms that clock in at 134 beats per minute, this single is aimed at serious dancers.

But if that's not serious enough for you, the flip side contains an alternate version of the same song that is even more energizing at 146 bpm! No time to strike a pose here; just dance, dance, dance.

Fresh Beats

Notable releases this week that deserve your attention include Randy Travis' new album, *Heroes & Friends*. Country crooner Travis has amassed a wealth of talent for a series of duets featuring artists he says have been heroes of his for a long time: Dolly Parton, Willie Nelson, Merle Haggard, Loretta Lynn, B.B. King, George Jones, Kris Kristofferson, Tammy Wynette, Conway Twitty, Roy Rogers, Vern Gosdin and Clint Eastwood. (Don't you remember *Paint Your Wagon*?)

A cappella sextet Take 6 has just released *So Much to*

Say, a stirring collection of music delivered with exquisite harmonies.

EMI Records has assembled a 20-track collection, *My Blue Heaven — The Best of Fats Domino*. Meant to coincide with the recent release of the film of the same title, this retrospective traces his career from April 1956 and the release of that first single through September 1961 and "What A Party."

Tracie Spencer is back with her sophomore project for Capitol Records, *Make a Difference*. Out to prove that she is more than a one-hit wonder, this is same the young lady who scored a major hit two years ago with "Symptoms Of True Love."

Make a Difference is a surprisingly mature endeavor for someone who just turned 15 years old. The material is a well-balanced mix of dance numbers, urban funk, contemporary pop and ballads. Spencer's first single, "Save Your Love," is popping up all over the place, and in the clubs, the accompanying video is quickly becoming a No. 1 request. Check it out.

Say What?

In the October issue of



George Benson

Life magazine, Whitney Houston is quoted as saying: "I mean, people really believe that I'm gay! It's a real trip. ... All I can say is that it cracks me up. I have no desire for a woman. But if that turns you on, and that's what you think, go for it. I'm not going to spend the rest of my life trying to prove it's not true be-

cause I know the truth." Thanks for clearing that up, Whitney. I think.

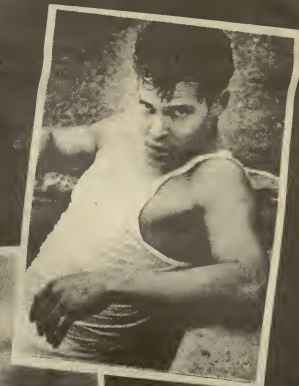
The Rear View

Fifteen years ago this week, "Bad Blood" by Neil Sedaka was the No. 1 single across the nation. Twenty-five years ago this week, "Hang On Sloopy" by the McCoys was the No. 1 single. ▼

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The a capella sextet Take 6 has just released a new collection of songs.

New Efforts from George, Peter and Bette

Listening With Prejudice

by John F. Karr

This wouldn't be happening to George Michael if he weren't pretty. If he hadn't been such a pinup, wiggling his butt in tight pants for the delight of thousands of screaming adolescent girls (and not a few screaming adult queers), both press and fans alike would have realized before now that that was just the package, the merchandising of stardom.

Because here are the facts behind the streaked hair and slender butt: Michael wrote that material, and it was good. And he produced the records, and his production



George

was stunning. And he sang the hell out of his songs with

one of the few truly memorable voices of his generation.

So when Michael thinks it's necessary to haul out the heavy ammunition to attain the position due him in the pop world, I say: good. No interviews and a video without beefcake. A record without adoring photos and lyrics printed stark white on black. That's all okay, because, once again, the record's good.

Better than that. For a 27-year-old artist who has been through the wringer of fame, adoration, sudden wealth and the tremendous pressure of the demand for a follow-up "product," Michael has come through with a record that not only means something to him as a growing artist, but



Peter

communicates that meaning in clear lyrics and strong melody.

In an era when most tunes know only rhythm, Michael has kept touch with tunes. And, even more than expected, he sings the hell out of those tunes. What gorgeous, soulful singing there is on this set.

More Than Meets the Eye

There's always been more to Michael than the obvious, and I'm not referring to his alleged gayness. For example, *Village Voice* rock writer Rob Tannenbaum calls the *Faith* album "a song cycle about desire and fear in the age of AIDS."

Michael may not run that deep, but he has studied and digested pop history, learned his way around a recording studio, and developed a sound and style that are uniquely his own. So if you're disappointed that *Listen Without Prejudice, Vol. 1* isn't a dance album, you've only got your own expectations to blame.

And you haven't long to wait for that dance album, anyway. Volume II is implicit in this album's title.

Meantime, the only thing *Listen Without Prejudice* doesn't satisfy is that persistent nagging about the sex thing. And it's exacerbated by the soul-baring hit tune of the album, "Freedom '90."

"I think there's something you should know, I think it's time I told you so," Michael writes. Is this it? Is he gonna come out in his chart-topping tune? Has your heart stopped? Pulse pounding for the next line? Here it is! "There's something deep inside of me."

Well, that's a little too open-ended for me. Exactly what is it buried deep inside you, George—your sensitivity or someone's joy stick? Ah, George. I never doubted you had thoughts and feelings in there. But in the future, let's be a little more specific if possible.

"Somewhere along the way, pop lost all its respect," Michael said in a recent interview. Michael shows his respect for pop as a communicative medium in *Listen Without Prejudice*, with a respectable collection of songs that not only bare his soul in direct, intelligent lyrics, but elicit his most soulful singing.

Basically Tedious

Perhaps, in the wake of their convention-ridden, form-mass-consumption new albums, Peter Allen and Bette Midler should study George Michael's album. I don't expect introspection from Allen's *Making Every Moment Count* and Midler's *Some People's Lives*, but these basically tedious efforts fail exactly in their efforts to

be commercial.

Both albums have the same glossy, glitzy LA production; an overabundance of studio flimflam that smothers; the same generic ballads with heavy drum machines trying to propel them but actually bringing them down; the same by-the-numbers flagging (I almost said flogging) of "the big number" with the addition of large gospel choirs and a symphony orchestra; the same formula song order that put a toe-tapper charmer just after the big one and before the finale.

Oh, yes, these are every inch that sort of pop products that make you lose respect. I was somewhat resentful of both long before either was over.

Allen does share the best tune from his unfortunate Broadway flop, *Legs Diamond*, with Harry Connick, whose Monk-ish piano clears the air for a moment. "When I Get My Name in Lights" almost sounds like a live con-



Bette

cert track thanks to the almost spontaneous performances of Allen and Connick. "I Could Marry the Rain" is a disarmingly direct song, a sensibly unsentimental ballad given a surprisingly understated arrangement and performance. "Nothing gets to hurt you, nothing comes to close, when you love a thing from afar," Allen sings, in a song he wrote without any of his usual collaborators in schmaltz.

"Why Not" is the toe-tapper throwaway. The already classic "Love Don't Need a Reason" closes the album.

But surrounding these oases, it's back into the can for half a dozen of those Hallmark Greeting Card songs in which the hook of a clever title ("Tonight You Made My Day") and a snatch of melody are meant to carry the burden of an entire song.

Botched Bette

Bette's album is more of a disappointment because it so ignores her noted talents to parade her as ballad singer. Which, of course, she is. But she's always had better material than these rejects from Melissa Manchester albums.

There isn't a "No Jester-ing" on this album, nor a "Hello in There." There are

(Continued on next page)



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New Album, Visit to Bay Area for Flirtations

All the Way Out, But A Little Too Sweet

by Jeffery Kennedy

If you like your entertainers positively, definitely, happily "out," The Flirtations are the group for you. From the name of the band's record label (Significant Other) to the autobiographical snippets provided as liner notes ("One of us took his boyfriend to the high school prom"), these a cappella-singing New Yorkers are clearly proud, gay men.

Their debut album includes 16 songs drenched in dazzling harmonies and uplifting, New Age-y messages anchored in a politically correct gay sensibility. Topics range from children ("On Children") to infatuation ("Shooting Star"), and they sing in both English and Spanish ("Santa Maria").

The Flirtations' in-your-face, we-are-good-people queerness is admirable, but attitude alone cannot make a song work. This is most apparent on their cover versions of pop songs. The B-52s' "Housework" and the Beach Boys' "Surfin' USA" are both doomed by over-exaggerated campiness. The falsetto on "Why Do Fools Fall In Love?" lacks the verve which saved the original from silliness. And "To Know Him Is To Love Him" gets off to a good start — the melancholic tone which made this song a classic is successfully reproduced — only to be ruined by a flat interpretation of the gut-wrenching chorus.

Singing, Soaring

But when the Flirtations' professional, polished singing style meets more suitable material, they soar. "Breathe" is

a subtle song using lovely pastoral images ("Those who have died have never never left/The dead are not under the earth/They're in the rustling trees") that give AIDS survivors encouragement to carry on.

The low-key, barbershop stylings of "It Started All Over Again" and "Lida Rose" are beautiful, and the obstinate call for defiance in "Something Inside So Strong" rings true.

The Flirtations flirt with greatness on "Wallflower," a powerful, harrowing portrait of a person with AIDS' hospital stay. The room, the confinement and the medical profession's intrinsic prejudice are described with a tremulous anger which gives the vivid imagery even more impact. The narrator swears, "Though you may disappear, you're not forgotten here, and I will say to you, I will do



The Flirtations, from left: Aurelio Font, TJ Myers, Michael Callen, Cliff Townsend, Jon Ahterton.

what I can do," and the song ends with an empowering "Hold on!" that will wrench a tear from the coldest at heart.

"The Flirt Song," the group's "Creeque Alley," closes the album, and its most revealing line is, "We're only looking for a little sweet satisfaction."

The Flirtations are splashy, sassy and smart. But this album is saturated in sweetness, and too much sweetness, like too much sugar, can leave a bad taste in your mouth. Temperance is in order.

Editor's note: The Flirtations are performing Oct. 13

as part of the Feeding the Flame benefit at First Congregational Church (for info, phone 431-0891), and Oct. 14 at the Great American Music Hall (885-0750). The group will be back in San Francisco for two nights, Nov. 6 and 7, at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint. (861-7993). ▼

Listening

(Continued from previous page)

third-rate "Wind Beneath My Wings" clones, which might survive a live performance, but are strangled here by the air-tight, synthetic instrumentation and production.

Some People's Lives has been so confined by its producers that there's no joy in it. It's lifeless. And if there's anything we expect from Bette, it's life.

When she was young and hot, I wanted to grow old with her. I didn't want to be old with her, however, and this disc is strictly middle-aged. Yet it's not a bad album. Like new wallpaper, it's noticeable for awhile, and then you forget it's there.

But really, girl: Bette's big number, "From a Distance," is a protest song, of all things. Sure, Bette's sincere. But when she calls it "the song of Everyman" and warns us to behave because "God is watching us ... from a distance," you'll lunge for the skip button and never return.

Like Peter Allen's album, Bette's brings us dogged formula, glassy-eyed and glossy pop pap, instead of acknowledging the idioms, the theatre tradition, the performers are stars in. In these recordings, they're both roped and tied by a glittery product that's hardly gold — the old Hollywood story. ▼

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New and Novel



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Secret Anniversaries
by Scott Spencer; Alfred A. Knopf, \$19.95

by Dennis Harvey

After several lesser novels, Scott Spencer remains known primarily for *Endless Love*, a debut that captured the high hormonal intensity of adolescent love (boy-girl in this case) with suitably fevered yet controlled prose.

Secret Anniversaries is an entertaining new work, and deserves applause for a presumably straight mainstream novelist's sympathetic, uncondescending incorporation of gay themes into the narrative. But like everything else in this overambitious but under-realized work, those strands finally don't accrue any lasting reverberation.

Provocative Subject

Spender has a provocative, thorny subject here: the crypto-fascism of heartland America that we prefer to ignore, as personified by the pro-Nazi sympathies that proliferated in the late-'30s U.S. before Pearl Harbor made a most reluctant mass public suddenly enthused about joining the Allied war effort.

His heroine, young Caitlin Van Fleet, has grown up keep-

ing her subservient "place" as a daughter of immigrants working a poorly paid kind of Depression serfdom for a wealthy new-money New England countryside family. When her unashamed, independent-minded sexual urges find her caught in a dalliance with said family's eldest son, a "scandal" is prevented by having her whisked off to work in the Washington, D.C., offices of German-interest-towing Congressman Stowe.

For a woman of her intellectual promise, this is a lucky break of major proportions, but she soon finds her naivete challenged by a lot of moral and emotional dilemmas — principally the dark possible connection of Stowe to illicit government financing of pro-Nazi anti-intervention propaganda. But no less significant is her intense attraction to Stowe's brilliant, witty and confirmed "bachelorette" assistant, Betty Sinclair.

Caitlin's loyalties are soon sorely tested. On the one hand, her gay (yet smitten) journalist friend Joe Rose, who's gone "underground" posing as an extreme-right pro-Nazi demagogue, urges her to spy on the



Scott Spencer

increasingly suspect activities of politician Stowe. On the other hand, she finds her crush courted and amply returned by the beautiful older Betty, who struggles to maintain a no-questions-asked faith in her employer. A violent tragedy (foreshadowed early on) dooms this relationship.

Too Much Enlightenment

Despite its eventual Allied triumph, WWII seems to enlighten Caitlin and Joe too much; they'll live out the rest of their still-young lives permanently alienated from both their "personal lives" and from the feeling of genuine patriotic belonging in their birthright nation. Permanently disillusioned, obsessed with rescuing

(Continued on page 63)

The Importance of Being Honest

Families
by David Watmough; Knights Press, \$9.50

by Marv. Shaw

As we grow out of our biological families, we tend to form our own confederacies, especially if we are gay. Another kind of family, often as close or closer than our original one, gradually forms by choice.

For gays, this "secondary" family can become the primary one; its members are truly devoted to each other because they want to be. Love has displaced blood and legalities.

Though these chosen families are often all gay for us, sometimes they are not. When they are mixed, the bonds are different, though no less strong. But some commonality usually prevails.

In *Families*, the common tie is a professional one born in academia. Watmough's continuing protagonist, Davey Bryant, becomes part of a group of scholars and art types with his longtime lover, Ken Bradley, a professor of French at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver.

From buddy and cultural companion he eventually takes on the role of confidante to two couples; Gordon and Helen, and Neil and Jacqueline — especially to the wives.

Closeted Academics

This clique becomes closer than brothers and sisters. Given that the husbands are male and gay, it's logical that Davey might be closer to them. But ironically, that's not the case, the reason being that the two academics are closeted. Another complication arises when their sons, Benjamin and Derek, Davey's godchildren, reach adolescence and start realizing disturbing things about their fathers.

The two women and their sons accompany Davey and Ken on a summer holiday to England, France and Spain, leaving the husbands behind in Vancouver, where ensuing events precipitate a crisis.

Steady, Happy Union

Throughout the novel, the

(Continued on page 63)

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Gay Voices From Way Down South

by Marv. Shaw

If there are any redneck homophobes out there who still doubt that we are legion — and getting stronger — they should take a look at this 56-page magazine coming to us from smack dab in the middle of the Bible Belt. In fiction, poetry and graphic art, *Amethyst: A Journal for Lesbians and Gay Men*, published out of Atlanta, registers forthrightly. And the fact that the Summer 1990 issue is the journal's sixth attests to its vigorous health.

The keynote piece in the latest edition, "The Billboard Project," by Rebecca Ranson about Jay MacDonald, is as touching and inspirational as the AIDS quilt. When he was diagnosed with AIDS two years ago, MacDonald set out to achieve a dramatic project which would improve gay acceptance.

His creation was a mammoth billboard with the message "Gay America Loves You" on an American flag above an interstate freeway segment in downtown Atlanta. Though it had to be restored twice after being defaced, the effect was sensational and heart lifting. Why hasn't this extraordinary feat had national publicity?

In pages, verse outweighs fiction. The 19 poems are, in a way, typical late-20th century American verse in that most are unrhymed free verse, often unmettered as well. But each achieves its

own resonance. For example, in Robert Rucker's "Claiming Territory," 16 irregular lines add up to the stinging crackle of rejection. Terri Jewell's "Family Jewel Heretics" celebrates a clutch of eccentric dykes, ostensibly from her family's past. San Franciscan John Gilgun makes a revelation of actual identity startling and poignant in "Mother."

Among the fiction, Bob Chatelle's "Jeffrey's Eyes" is the standout, a stunning, simply told narrative of cumulative self realization and personal liberation gradually evolving in a repressive little town. A slighter story, which still limns regional character with respectful sensitivity, is Perry Brass' "Southern Sissy Boys."

The graphics are skillful and evocative, especially Tom Mapel's haunting photo of nude dancer Jim Chappelaux and Barbara Snell's print of two dancing punk women.

Amethyst's entire artistic and editorial direction is female. The even balance between men and women contributors is marvelous testimony to gender justice in gay publishing. The magazine is succeeding at a rare combination of regional feeling and universal ideas.

Editor's note: *Amethyst A Journal for Lesbians and Gay Men* is published by Southeastern Arts and Media Education Project (S.A.M.E.) P.O. Box 54719, Atlanta, Georgia 30308; \$12.95 per year (2 issues). ▼



New and Novel



A Garden of Readerly Delights

Secrets

by Leslea Newman; New Victoria Publishers, \$8.95

America and I: Short Stories by American Jewish Writers

Edited with an introduction by Joyce Antler; Beacon Press, \$19.95

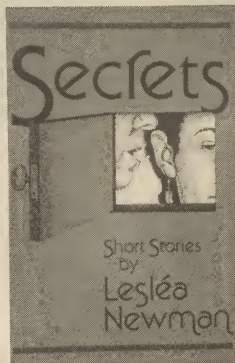
by Deborah Peifer

I must begin with a disclaimer: I have never considered the short story to be a particularly interesting form. I almost always want the story to be, well, longer — or something else — an essay, perhaps, or a cartoon.

It was with some concern then that I approached not one, but two, collections of short stories. I was delighted to discover that my earlier problem was not with the form, but with the quality of the work I had been reading. The superb works in these collections embrace the form, claim its values, and capture the reader with a profundity that is astonishing both in its depth of vision and in its range of possibilities.

"Most of us are aware of the power of words both spoken and written, but what of the power of words not spoken or written — the power of secrets?" With this tantalizing question, Leslea Newman begins her extraordinary collection of short stories, *Secrets*.

Newman is a remarkable writer, and this collection highlights her ability to create fully realized characters and



compelling narrative. The secrets — discovered, revealed, hidden, denied — include incest, co-dependence, rape, coming out (and a wonderful confession of a stone butch who rolls over), but this collection is no laundry list of hot Geraldo topics. Rather, these are stories of lived lives, which include, but are not defined solely by these events.

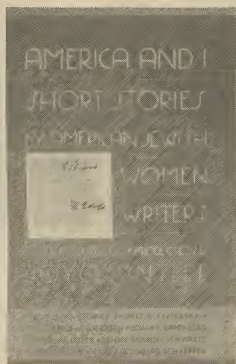
Using Humor

And did I mention humor? Newman's characters use humor to hide and to reveal, to deflect and to engage, and Newman herself uses humor

to illuminate character or to comment ironically on situations. Because the comedy comes out of the characters and their lives rather than being layered on or inserted by the writer, the humor is rich and insightful ... and funny. Let's not forget funny.

Most, but not all, of Newman's stories focus on lesbian characters, and her wry commentary on the conventions of the lesbian community (or should it more properly be lesbian communities?) pokes gentle fun at our cherished notions of the politically correct. "The Dating Game" concentrates on the special terrors involved in asking out, and then going out with, that new and desirable woman in your life. And no one who has ever been the new kid on the block will fail to be moved by Rhonda's decision to reveal that her mother is lesbian "Right off the Bat."

Newman's strengths as a writer are numerous, but I was particularly impressed with her ability to capture the perfect style and the ideal



voice for each story she tells. Roberta's voice in "One Night in the Middle of My Lover's Arms" is matter-of-fact, even cool, when she speaks out loud to her lover, but her interior monologues reveal her fears and insecurities.

This story is told in the first person, and we understand that we are getting only Roberta's take on the events she reports. The dangers of "Holding On" are told through a series of unanswered letters, and the third person narrative is used effectively in several of the darker stories, especially "Secrets" and "Not That Easy."

A Fascinating Overview

America and I is a collec-

tion of stories written by American Jewish women in the 20th century. Although the collection does not have the coherence that derives from a single author, the anthology nevertheless affords a fascinating overview of what it means to be a Jewish woman in the U.S.

The collection is divided into four chronological periods, and the stories represent the move from the ghetto to the beginning of the century to the assimilationist fears at the end. More striking, perhaps, is the change in consciousness in the stories that occur in the post-Holocaust writings. Even when the subject is not explicitly the concentration camps, as in, for example, Rebecca Goldstein's "The Legacy of Raizel Kaidish: A Story," the fact of the six million dead is always present in the writing, or at least in the consciousness, of the writer (and the reader).

The chronological approach offers something like a history of the short story as well, as the form is changed and adapted to meet narrative necessity. Grace Paley's "Midrash on Happiness" is nothing like Mary Antin's "Malinke's Atonement," but both are examples of the ways in which the form can be manipulated to serve new purposes.

(Continued on page 63)

Do You Have Time for This?

Meditations for Women Who Do Too Much
by Anne Wilson Schaefer; Harper and Row, \$8.95

by Kate Bornstein

I'm writing this at 11:30 at night. My deadline is tomorrow morning at 9 a.m. It's been a long Sunday. Got up at six to exercise. Safeway at eight. Fixed breakfast, gulped it down. Moved furniture and clothing and stuff out onto the street for a yard sale. Ran inside from time to time to negotiate contracts for upcoming performances of my show.

Drove over to Community Thrift to donate what we couldn't sell. Bought a new bookcase there with the proceeds from what did sell. Did the breakfast dishes. Fixed dinner. Answered letters. Returned phone calls. Looked over at my lover who reminded me that Mercury would be going into retrograde and that communication will be difficult these next few months.

Watched Star Trek despite Laurie Anderson's disparaging comments. Wrote an article for the paper. Began writing this review. Got to get up tomorrow at six to exercise.

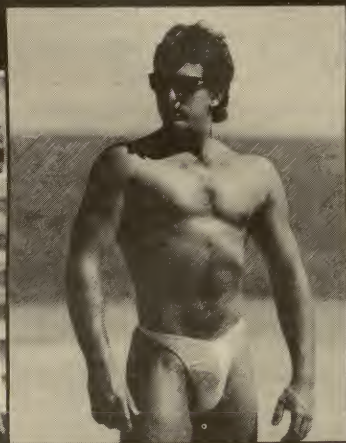
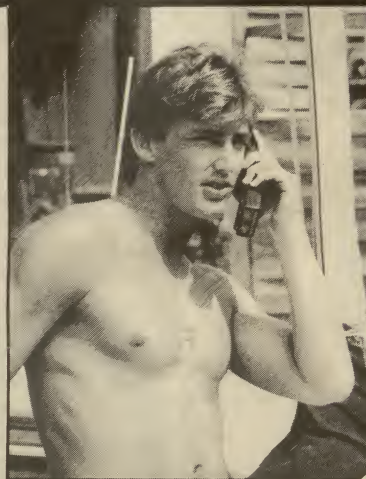
What was the name of the book I'm reviewing? Oh yes. *Meditations for Women Who Do Too Much*, by Anne Wilson Schaefer. Do I have time to review this?



The book's been sitting in my bathroom for two weeks, and it's truly helped me develop a sense of humor about my more manic phases. It's brought me to the realization that I do need "alone" time.

Meditations is probably the least insipid of those little meditation books flooding the "recovery" section of the bookstores. (Yes — blush — I've tried a bunch of them) The acid test? In the bookstore, flip *Meditations for Women* to the entry for your birthday. If it rings true, chances are it'll do you some good. ▼

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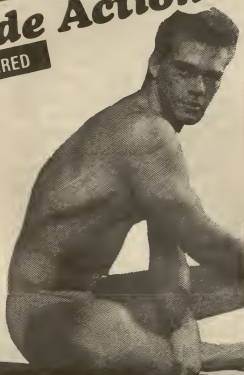
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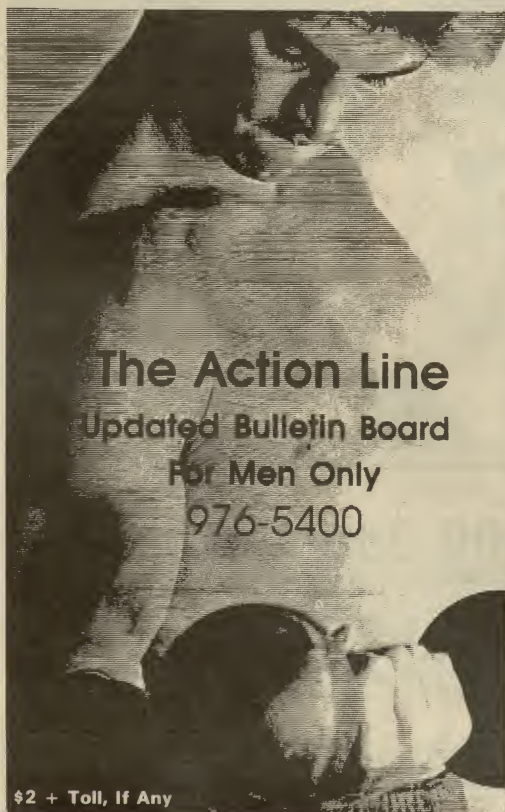
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Club Uranus DJs Lewis, left, and Mike.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Clubbing

(Continued from page 33)

Lewis strongly prove that silliness-as-unifier is a working concept.

Wacky fashion high jinks aside, is there a political *raison d'être* for all this frolic? Mike and Lewis insist "no"; the clubs' co-ed policy was created for fun only.

Despite this largely play-oriented philosophy, a statement or two manages to eke its way to the surface: Yes, gay men and women can rub elbows and bump booties without undesirable friction, and as a result, fun is a viable means for social evolution. While gay men and lesbians have partied together in the past, the twain ne'er did meet very often in communities as large and deeply factionalized as ours. It's a pleasure to see that changing.

A Newfound Unity

But why are these two integrated clubs working now? Kimo, a dancer at Uranus feels that their success is a direct response to the pressures of the current reactionary political climate.

In an era when gays and other sexual minorities are fighting for their lives, as well as for their rights, there is a newfound sense of determination and unity that extends from the political demonstration to the dance floor. We, as a community, have been forced to overlook our differences in the name of survival, and now we can do it for fun.

Kimo also believes that the cultural similarities, or more correctly, the counter-cultural similarities, of the clubs' core attendees have helped bridge the gap between gay and lesbian nightlives. The "average" Chaos/Uranus clubgoers lead a so-called alternative lifestyle.

I don't think we as a community can afford to remain separated by gender. It makes us vulnerable to our opposition and boring to each other.

These people are artists, activists, or anti-assimilationist queers. They share the common bond of being a minority within the overall gay minority. Gender differences aside, it's only natural that these fabulously feathered birds should flock together. Silliness added to rebelliousness becomes another great unifier when you get down to it.

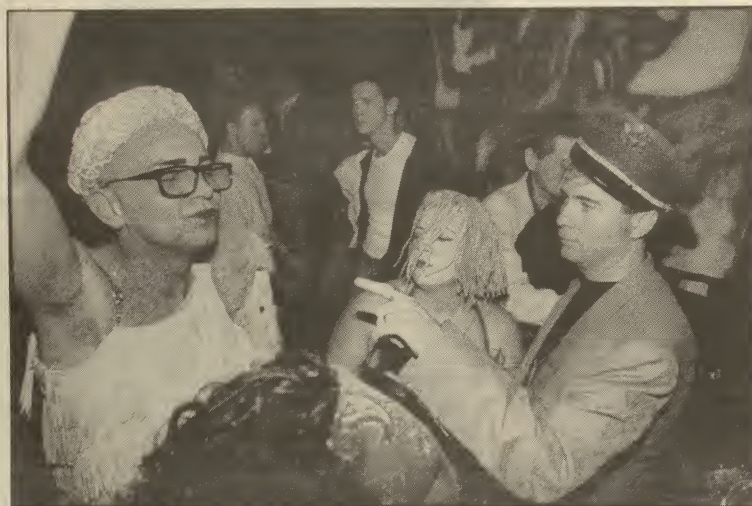
Despite its visible-by-sheer-numbers success, the concept of co-gender clubbing has met with some resistance. Some

lesbians and gay men, of course, want to keep their respective social scenes exclusive and will hold out to the bitter end to keep their lines unsullied by contact with the opposite sex. But if, as the current club scene illustrates, girls will be boys (and visa-versa), is there really a logical basis for separation?

To be sure, scores of people are put off by the overtly frivolous atmosphere at Chaos or Uranus. Tsk, tsk to you, Sour Grapes Things! If you want staid nightlife, stay home and prowl through your *Encyclopedia Britannica*.

And then there are those who are miffed by the radical politics of some of the clubgoers. Obviously, these clubs play host to various forms of the extreme. This is what is known as the cutting edge. If you don't want to get cut, stay away from the blade.

I don't think we as a community can afford to remain separated by gender. It makes us vulnerable to our opposition and boring to each other. It's thrilling to see clubs like Chaos and Uranus reduce the separatist battle of the sexes to a heated tussle over who gets to use the hairspray first. Co-gender clubbing flips a nice bird to the status quo and brings us together in a very loud, stylish way. If that sounds appealing to you, well, I know what you're doing next weekend. Just a friendly reminder, clubbing is not a spectator sport or a freak show put on solely for your amusement. Be in it, or get over it. See you there. ▼



Co-gender clubbing: Flipping a bird to the status quo.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Bay Area Reporter Sports & Fitness

Sports Calendar

SF Slammers

Women's basketball practice Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood. Susan, 824-4697.

Men's Basketball

Practice on Sundays, 6-8 p.m., at the Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood. Tony, 621-2710.

Tavern Guild Bowling League

For info call Mal, 752-2366.

SF Women's Business Bowling League

Sundays at 6 p.m. at Park Bowl, 1855 Haight.

Rock Climbers

For info call Chris, (209) 294-1527.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club

Tuesday & Friday practices at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 12:30 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels, ages and ethnicities welcome. Gary, 558-9195, or Gene, 821-2991.

SF Wrestling Club

All wrestling forms and styles, all ages and weights welcome. Call 538-8490 or 821-9721.

Bay Area Boxing Club

For info call Greg, 255-7361.

SF Women's Flag Football

For info call Michelle, 563-4722.

SF Trojans

For info call Bernard, 824-7048.

Sunday Night Volleyball Club

Sundays, 8 p.m., for beginners & intermediates; advance players Saturday mornings at the Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood. \$4. All skill levels welcome. Tony, 255-2781.

Gay Volleyball

Sundays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., in the school yard at 18th St. & Deharo. All welcome, even beginners. Jay, 864-0257.

Gay Softball League

For info call Len, 864-3220.

Bay Area Racquetball Club

Sundays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at Schoeber's Athletic Club, South SF. All skill levels welcome. Wref, 626-7758.

Gay Tennis Federation

For info call Michael, 431-1721.

Birds of a Feather Badminton

Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at Mission High School and Tuesdays, 7-9:30 p.m., at Eureka Valley Rec. Center. Pat, 285-1743.

SF Spikes

Soccer practice on Tuesdays, 8 p.m., at West Sunset Soccer Fields, 40th Ave. & Ortega, and Thursdays, 8 p.m., at Moscone Field, Chestnut & Laguna. Carlo, 821-4248.

Tsunami Gay/Lesbian Swim Team

Sundays, 10-11:45 a.m., at SF Rec. & Park King Pool, 3rd St. & Carol. Mondays, 7:30-9 p.m., Wednesdays, 6:15-7:30 p.m., Thursdays, 6:15-8 p.m., at SF Rec. & Park Hamilton Pool, Geary & Hamilton. Call 626-0561 or 255-9091.

SF Water Polo

Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 9-10:30 a.m., at Coffman Pool, Visitation & Hahn. Men & women of all skill levels welcome. John, 621-0783.

SF FrontRunners

Tuesday Fun Runs, 6:30 p.m., at Ferry Bldg, Embarcadero; no-host dinner follows. Thursday Fun Runs, 6:30 p.m., at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park; no-host dinner follows. Sunday Fun Runs, 10 a.m., location TBA. Rod, 621-2213.

EastBay FrontRunners

For info call Roz, 939-3579, or Greg, 865-6792.

Bay Area Distance Runners

Saturday, Oct. 20: Crystal Springs, 10-18 mile run. For info call Dave, 626-1380, or Lois, 586-6013.

Different Spokes Bicycle Club

Saturday, Oct. 13: An easy Napa Valley ride, mostly flat, about 35 miles. Call Don, (707) 963-2479. Sunday, Oct. 14: A rather high energy East Bay hill ride. Serious hills & about 45 miles. Call Sahron or Mike, 841-2314. Decide-and-Rides each Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m., at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park. All levels welcome. Weekly schedule, 282-1647. Write: PO Box 14711, SF 94114.

SF Hiking Club

For info call Clyde, 285-1260.

SF Track & Field Club

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., and Sundays, 10:30 a.m., at SF State University track, 1600 Holloway. All skill levels welcome. Rick, 626-8784.

TO YOUR HEALTH

Achieving Body Awareness

by Dianne Aaronson

Although bodybuilding takes up a lot of my time, it represents only one aspect of my life. In the larger scheme of things, it is simply one avenue by which I (or anyone else) can achieve health and fitness.

When I refer to health and fitness, I'm usually assuming a larger-than-life integration of body/spirit/mind (being larger than the total sum of its parts). Not only am I aware of bodybuilding as being merely one of many choices in the physical realm, but I also understand that areas other than the physical need to be addressed in order to achieve total fitness.

I am therefore very pleased that I am being given an opportunity to break out of the bodybuilding mold and write some more general articles on health and fitness.

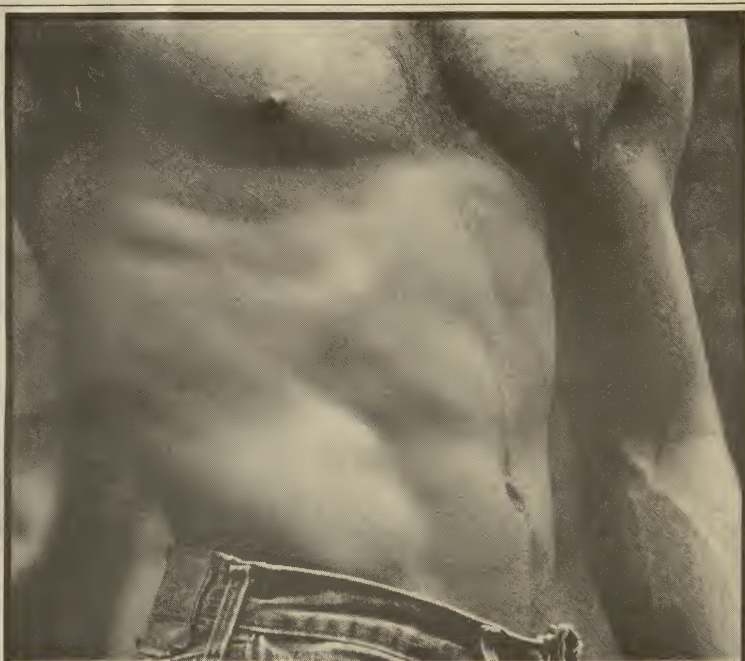
I believe that the most important prerequisite for health is awareness of one's surroundings. It is amazing how often we go through our days on "automatic." You know, that feeling of "waking up" in the middle of a conversation or driving down the road.

Where were we until then? Life may be a lot less "complex" when we fall into

(Continued on page 48)



A few minutes to quiet the mind makes for better body awareness. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)



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Body

(Continued from page 47)

automatic, habitual movements, but this limits our choices immensely. The ability to be aware is a skill that must be cultivated, but the rewards are great.

Quieting the Mind

Meditation is an example of an awareness-development tool. It is a process whereby people quiet their chattering minds to become more aware.

What is body awareness exactly? To answer the first part of the question: body awareness is the ability to know where your body is in space and in relation to its environment; to be able to feel all of your body parts and how they are in relation to all your other parts. Why bother? In order to sense tension, stagnation, and disease in their early stages, when they're easier to deal with, to be more "grounded," more powerful, to get to know yourself, to be Here.

Living in California during the New Age, most of us by now have listened to a relaxation tape, undergone hypnosis or been talked through some kind of meditation. Inevitably, these all begin with body awareness techniques ("feel your feet on the floor, move

your awareness up your legs, through your arms," etc., etc.). Why? Because you can't relax, contract or focus on something unless you know it's there.

Practicing awareness skills helps us know where our various parts are and reinforces our memory so that when we're too stressed out to think, we can remember how to find them.

Body Awareness is the ability to know where your body is in space and in relation to its environment.

A Simple Exercise

For starters, practice this simple exercise upon waking, before sleeping, and/or before anything that you anticipate will be stressful or will tempt you to leave your body (or the planet): Sitting or standing comfortably (eyes open or closed), feel your feet on the floor and begin to move your awareness from your feet up through your sitbones and thighs on the seat. If sitting, become aware of your feet up through your legs, knees, etc. Can you tell where your seat ends and your body begins?

Continue moving your awareness up your torso, down your shoulders and arms, back through your shoulders, neck and head. When you reach the top, move your awareness back down again, searching for tense spots. Take deep easy breaths and let the tension go on the exhales.

Make sure that you can really feel your feet on the ground (especially if you tend to space out) before you open your eyes and go on with your day. Even if you do this exercise slowly, it will only take five minutes. Some of the specific benefits are reduced lower back pain, and the avoidance of clenched jaws and stiff necks, but these five minutes can change the quality of your life in ways beyond the physical. More on those in later issues, but in the meantime, you may start to notice the changes in yourself.

Dianne Aaronson, Gay Games gold medalist, has been in the bodywork field for over seven years. She has a M.A. from the John F. Kennedy University in Clinical Holistic Health Education with an emphasis on somatics (body/mind) therapy. Dianne has been offering somatics-related classes in the Bay Area and Seattle since 1986 and taught weight training at U.C. Berkeley in 1989.

P O O L

A Little Luck and A Lot of Control

The campaign to determine 16 finalists to compete in the S.F. Pool Association's 10th Annual 9-Ball Championship reached the midpoint last week, and the competitors are realizing that a little luck and a lot of cue ball control make a recipe for success. Consistent excellence is only possible when a player learns to master cue-ball positioning, and the very best players treat it like a puppet on a string.

Championship qualifier No. 3 took place Oct. 4 at the Transfer. Half of the 30-player field split off to the Pilsner, where Norman Whitte topped opponents Jerry Hoover, Royal Senn, Norman Indo and Ching Ng.

Barry White bested the transfer field with consecutive wins over Bernie King, Jodie Baron, Billy West and Rigo Lopez.

There were 22 on hand at Francine's Oct. 6, conserving

sunscreen as they lingered around the table both there and at the Bear. Karen Brandman was unstoppable at the latter location scoring victories over Bernie King, Bill Von Prillwitz and Rigo Lopez.

Dennis Healy pulled off some spectacular shots at Francine's to earn his finalist wings. Bowing to his will were Royal Senn, Carl Carr, Mark Miller and Tim Chitwood.

"I think I was trying too hard," Healy said of his effort in previous qualifiers. "Today I decided to just relax and have fun."

Four more qualifying opportunities are scheduled in the next two weeks with the finals set for Oct. 27.

One of the problems confronting team captains is providing playing opportunities for all team members. With six player rosters and only four active players in a match, tender egos can be easily bruised and team harmony disrupted.

Rick Bradford solved the dilemma on his Cinch Sexy Six by setting a playing schedule at the season's beginning that allowed equal opportunities for all six players. Now after the first seven weeks of play, each team member has played 16 games and they lead Division IV. This week they face their toughest test of the fall season as they host the league co-leaders, White Swallow Hunters. "We sure don't plan to lose on our home table," the ever-confident Bradford quipped.

Rick's pool mood is further buoyed by his career-best 15-1 burst out of his season's starting blocks. It's good for No. 2 on the individuals' list as the Hunters' Barry White is leading with his career-best 18-1 start.

Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information.

San Francisco Pool Association Team Standings

DIVISION ONE

	W	L
Park Bowl Weevils	95	17
Special Edukashun	66	46
Badlands II	61	51
Cinchspielers	55	57
Overpassers	50	62
Bear Et Al	42	70
Amelia's	41	71
Francine's Fanatics	38	74

DIVISION TWO

Overpass Tfoddlers	83	29
Red Bearons	72	40
Cinch Sorority	54	58
Badlands Rock 'n Roll	54	58
Amelia's Furies	49	63
Special Effects	46	66
Francine's Freestylers	45	67
Park Bowl	45	67

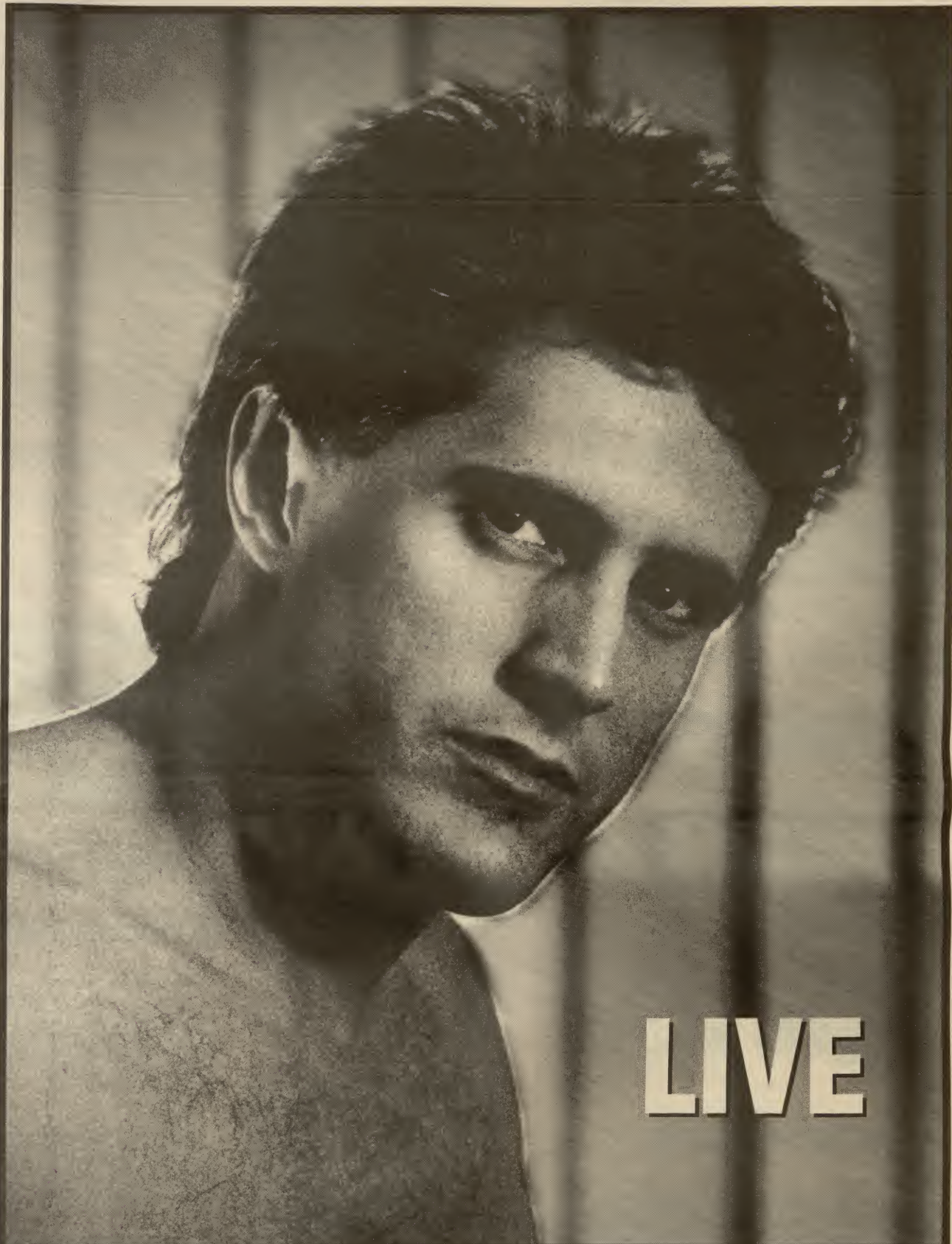
DIVISION THREE

White Swallow Hunt	95	17
Rams Need Head Too	58	54
Transfer Ball Busters	58	54
Cinchstations	56	56
Uncle Bert's U.B.1. Too	55	57
Demonic Detour	55	57
Pilsner Penguins	43	67
Castro Station Express	26	84

DIVISION FOUR

Cinch Sexy Six	72	24
White Swallow Intrnl.	62	34
Land's End Dixon Balls	54	42
Castro Station Raiders	42	54
Detour Dragons	39	57
Uncle Bert's Wild Women	36	60
Transfer Engineers	31	65

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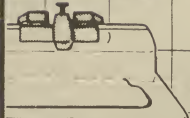
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Sunday, Oct. 14

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National Coming Out Day (Oct.
11), discusses his book and
autographs copies, 3:30 p.m.

also: Playwright **Neil Wach**,
author of "The Whale," and short story writer
Mark T. Zegarelli read, 7:30 p.m. (Gay Writers Series)



• **'Body Tjak':** A cross-cultural work involving 24 American & Indonesian performers accompanied by percussion music. Oct. 17-20 & 25-27, 8 p.m.; Oct. 21, 2 & 8 p.m. \$14-16. Cowell Theatre, Ft. Mason Center Pier 2, SF. 552-3656.

FRIDAY 12

• **I-Beam:** Fungo Mungo; You and What Army. 10 p.m. Free. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.

• **'Take-No-Prisoners Plus' Square Dance:** Western Star Dancers welcome lesbians & gay men for vigorous plus-level dancing with high energy caller Steve Edlund. 7:30-10 p.m. \$6. St. Paulus Church, Gough & Eddy, SF. 864-6134.

• **'Halloween Canteen & Costume Auction':** Unload that old costume or pick up a new one to benefit Living Sober 1991. 8:30-11 p.m. \$6-12. Childcare avail. & wheelchair access. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin, SF.

• **'Laundry Will Never Be The Same':** A dirt-raiser for the STOP AIDS Project. No-host bar, DJ. 8-11 p.m. \$5 or a man's DIRTY t-shirt or dress shirt. Brain Wash, 1122 Folsom, SF. 621-7177.

• **'I'm Glad I'm Not Young Anymore':** A gay/lesbian-sponsored variety show celebrating the experiences & options of older men & women. Oct. 12 at 8 p.m. & Oct. 13 at 2:30 p.m. Age 60+ free, others \$3-5. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF.

• **'Don't Make Me Say Things That Will Hurt You':** A mysterious comedy written & performed by Doug Holsclaw. Thru Oct. 21, plays Wed-Sun. at 8 p.m. \$8. Josie's, 3583 16th St., SF. 861-7933.

• **Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint:** Over Our Heads, the four-woman improv group leaves the audience shouting for more. 10 p.m. \$8. 3583 16th St., SF. 861-7933.

• **'Hatful of Rain':** By Michael Gazzo, a woman is pursued by her brother-in-law while her husband is on dope—Horrrifying & true. Thru Oct. 27, plays Fri. & Sat. at 8 p.m. \$9. Potrero Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro, SF. 839-9271.

• **'Archetypal Aspects of Homosexuality':** Zurich Jung Institute's C.T. Frey-Wehrin lectures on homosexuality from Jung's archetypal theory & the history and treatment of depth psychology. 8 p.m. \$7-10. Unitarian Center, 1187 Franklin/Geary, SF. 771-8080.

• **'Artifacts for the Seventh Generation':** Multimedia contemporary artworks by 12 Native American artists. Recep. today, 5-7 p.m. On view thru Nov. 10, Tue-Sat., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. American Indian Contemp. Arts Gallery, 685 Market, SF. 495-7600.

• **BWMT's C-R Rap/Social Nights:** "Love Letters From & To MACT-NY." 7 p.m. Refresh., 6:30 p.m. All welcome. 1350 Waller/Masonic, SF. 826-BWMT.



• **Martha Anne Verbit, An Evening of Piano Theatre:** An accomplished, slightly off-the-wall actress & internationally acclaimed pianist performs monologues & classical piano selections. Oct. 15 at 8 p.m. \$15-20. Herbst Theatre, Van Ness & McAllister, SF. 552-3656.

SATURDAY 13

• **Hunter Davis in Concert for Domestic Partners:** 8-10 p.m. \$12 donation. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St., SF. Call 252-5638.

• **Benefit Dance for VOICES:** Bay Area Lesbian Choral Ensemble. 8 p.m.-1 a.m. \$5. Smoke & alcohol free, wheelchair access. Golden Gate Lutheran Church, Dolores & 19th St., SF. 695-0547.

THIS

• **Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint:** Gay Comedy night with Danny Williams, Marga Gomez & Tom Ammirano. 10 p.m. \$8. 3583 16th St., SF. 861-7933.

• **October Cider Square Dance:** Western Star Dancers welcome lesbians/gays for dancing with top caller Steve Edlund. Basic thru Plus levels. Cider & donuts served. 7:30-10:30 p.m. \$6. St. Paulus Church, Gough & Eddy, SF. 864-6134.

• **'Tutto E Possibile (Everything Is Possible)':** A "medieval Italian market" with a bazaar, garage sale, bake sale & massage marathon. Benefits STEPS, a non-profit group for PWAs. Oct. 13 & 14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Eureka Valley Rec Center, 100 Collingwood/18th St., SF. 861-2255.

• **MCC Bar Night:** Learn to two-step with some cowgirl/boy at the Corral, Church & Market, SF, 9 p.m.; Men's Programming sponsors. 863-4434.

• **'Jasper Johns: Printed Symbols':** Graphic works of the renowned contemporary American artist. On view thru Nov. 18, Wed-Sun., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Calif. Palace of the Legion of Honor, 34th Ave. & Clement, SF. Call 750-3614.

• **'Diary of a Thought Criminal':** Mark I. Chester's photography exhibit of explicit scenes from South of Market. On view thru Oct. 21, Sat. & Sun., 1-6 p.m. \$2. 1229 Folsom, SF. 621-6294.

• **Men Seeking Relationships:** Mixer/workshop—small group discussions, social hour. 7:30 p.m. \$5. MCC Bldg, 150 Eureka, SF. Partners Institute, 343-8541.

• **Women's Friendship Group:** 3 p.m. at Cafe Commons, 3161 Mission, SF. GLOE, 626-7000.

• **Trance Channel Emmanuel & Friends:** One-day workshop exploring the wisdom of the heart. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. \$65. ACCESS Group, 883-6111.



• **Praise House:** NYC's Urban Bush Women create a folktale about a young girl & her grandmother and their visions of a spiritual world filled with angels. Oct. 12, 8 p.m.; Oct. 13, 8 & 2 p.m.; Oct. 14, 7 p.m. \$18. Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida, SF. 621-7797.

SUNDAY 14

• **I-Beam:** Sunday tea dance. 5 p.m.-2 a.m. \$4, \$3 w/pass. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.

• **XIXAX:** A women's bar, art gallery & performance space. Alternative music, DJs, shows & readings. Cool guys also welcome. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$0-3. In the Crystal Pistol, 842 Valencia/19th St., SF.

• **Club Uranus:** Wild adventures with DJs Mike & Lewis. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. \$4. 401 Harrison/6th St., SF.

• **El Rio:** Live Caribbean/South American music. 4-8 p.m. \$7. 3158 Mission, SF. 282-3325.

• **Graffiti:** New alternative dance space with great music & changing motifs. \$3. 224th St., SF. 777-0880.

• **Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint:** Crysanthemum Ragtime Band plays music of 1890-1920. 4 p.m. \$6, \$5 seniors. 3583 16th St., SF. 861-7933.

• **SF Candidates Night:** Asian Pacifica & GAPA sponsor a forum of person of color, lesbian, gay & bisexual candidates seeking local public offices. All welcome to hear issues addressed & questions answered. Potluck dinner follows. 5-8:30 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. Ming, 864-2060, or Zoon, 864-8812.

• **Black Folk Dramas of Spencer Williams, Part II: Of One Blood and Dirty Gertie From Harlem** presented by film historian Adrian Lanier-Seward. 8 p.m. \$3-5. SF Cinematheque, SF Art Institute, 800 Chestnut, SF.

• **A Different Light:** Rob Eichberg, *Coming Out*, founder of Natl. Coming Out Day (Oct. 11), 3:30 p.m. Playwright Neil Wach, *The Whale*, & short story writer Mark T. Zegarelli, 7:30 p.m. 489 Castro, SF. 431-0891.

• **Photographer Stephen Savage:** B&W photographs of dynamic male nudes. On view thru Oct. 31. Centespaces gallery, 2840 Mariposa, SF. 861-5059.

• **A Musical Exploration of the Mysteries of Relationships:** Musical & pop tunes lecture-concert with audience sing-along. 3-6 p.m. \$10-12. Potluck 6-7 p.m. Potrero Neighborhood Center, SF. 552-2222.

• **Men's Potluck Brunch:** Bring dish to share. 12-3 p.m. Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero, SF.

• **SF Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Committee:** Board of directors, 2 p.m. General membership & 1991 board elections, 5 p.m. 1519 Mission, SF. 864-FREE.

S WEEK

MONDAY 15

- **I-Beam**; Rollins Band; Screaming Trees. 10 p.m. \$7 adv., \$9. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.
- **A Sonata For the Dead**: Written, directed by Christopher Bernard, a plea for love in a world of AIDS. Also Judith Abrahams' *Suite For Pop Vocalist and Boom Box*. 8:30 p.m. \$5. The Marsh, Morty's, 1024 Kearny, SF. Stephanie, 255-2264.
- **Gay Comedy Open Mike**: Comic Karen Williams hosts aspiring gay & lesbian comics. 8:30 p.m. \$4. Sign-up by phone by 7:30 p.m. Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, 3583 16th St., SF. Call 861-7933.
- **Writers Workshop for Women Over 50**: 7-9 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. 626-7000.
- **Gay Men's Sketch**—Castro: Drop-in male nude figure drawing for all skill levels. Bodybuilder/performer Zoltan models. 7-10 p.m. \$12. MCC, 150 Eureka, Rm. 205, SF. 621-6294.
- **1001 Nob Hill Restaurant**: Pianist Gus Gustavson, Mon.-Wed.; vocalist Paula West & pianist Ken Muir, Thu.-Fri.; vocalist Paula West & pianist Gus Gustavson, Sat.; all 7-11 p.m. nightly. 1001 California, SF. 441-1001.
- **Duplicate Bridge Game**: Quicktricks Bridge Club open game. 7 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 285-5155.



Photograph by Jock Sturges.

- **Jock Sturges & Ruth Bernhard Exhibition**: Primarily taking pictures of nude girls individually, in groups with their friends & family, Sturges' nude portraits focus on the identity of the individual. His work was also seized recently, allegedly for their 'pornographic' content. A retrospective of Bernhard's sensual prints captures the essence of the female form & inanimate objects. Recep. Oct. 14, 2-4 p.m. On view thru Nov. 24. Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission, SF. 621-2107.

TUESDAY 16

- **Gordon Parks Tribute & Screening**: Recep. honoring the renowned American filmmaker, photographer & author and screening of *Leadbelly*. 7 p.m. \$10-15. Kabuki Theater, 1881 Post, SF. 864-4237.
- **Supervisory Candidates Forum**: The focus is on issues of concern to the lesbian & gay community. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St., SF. Martha, 552-8628.
- **Beyond Censorship: A First Amendment Forum**: A panel composed of Bay Area cultural, environmental & legal experts. 7 p.m. \$5. Life on the Water, Ft. Mason Bldg. B, SF. 752-3247.
- **Writing Workshop**: New workshop with George Bir-misa begins Oct. 16. Call 431-6254.
- **Gray Panthers/SF**: Margaret Budenz of the League of Women Voters answers questions & discusses the November ballot. 12:30 p.m. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin, SF. 552-8800.

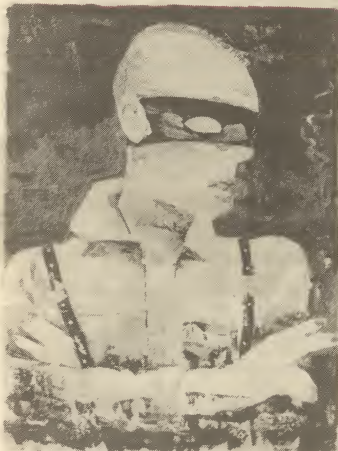
WEDNESDAY 17

- **Vocalist Samm Gray**: Gray performs jazz, blues, gospel & show standards. Oct. 10, 17 & 24 at 8 p.m. \$10. Josie's, 3583 16th St., SF. 861-7933.
- **Leather etc. Flea Market/Swap Meet**: Bondage Buddies welcomes men & women of all sexual styles & SF leathersellers selling their wares. Swap space available. 7-10 p.m. \$5. For location, 543-3433; for info, 621-6294.
- **'Discovery' A Men's Discussion Group**: "How Many Faces Do You Have?" 2:15 p.m. 333 Turk, 2nd floor, SF.
- **ACT UP/SF 'Fairy Tale or Horror Show'**: "Dianne & Pete: What About AIDS?" Come as your favorite candidate & show the press what a real AIDS agenda should be (wigs optional). 11 a.m. Feinstein for Gov. Office, 909 Montgomery, SF. 563-0724.
- **Hemlock Society/SF**: Fireside social & informational get-togethers. 7-9 p.m. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin/Geary, SF. 776-1140.

THURSDAY 18

- **Chaos**: Music, videos, lust! DJs Mike & Lewis spin Industrial, New Beat, Rap. Thursdays, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. \$1. Crystal Pistol, 842 Valencia/19th St., SF.
- **An Evening With Brian Eno**: Pamela Z hosts Brian Eno discussing his music & intermedia works. 8:30 p.m. \$10. Life on the Water, Ft. Mason Bldg. B, SF. 776-8999.
- **Comic Karen Ripley**: Performs to benefit women's resources. 8 p.m. UCSF. Call 649-8840.
- **Some Men Do...A Musical Outing**: Conceived, directed by John Karr & F. Allen Sawyer, a rowdy celebration of the gay identity in popular music. Thru Oct. 28, plays Thu.-Sun. at 8:30 p.m. \$10-11. Theatre Rhinoceros Studio, 2926 16th St., SF. 861-5079.
- **Jim Ferguson Retirement & Birthday Party**: Program Director of Acceptance Place & Baker New Place. Join us, 4-7 p.m., Castro Country Club, 4058 18th St., SF.
- **Campus Military Recruitment Protest & Rally**: Speak out against anti-gay discrimination as the military conducts employment interviews at UC's Boalt School of Law, Berkeley. 12:15 p.m.
- **Radical Women Study Group**: 8-wk analysis of why women are second-class citizens & how to overturn the oppression begins today, 7-8:30 p.m. Donation. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia, SF. 864-1278.
- **Coming Home Hospice Bingo**: Every Thursday. Doors at 6 p.m., games at 7 p.m. Most Holy Redeemer Church basement, 100 Diamond, SF. 648-8508 (message).

HOT TIPS



Mask, 1990, oil on wood panel by David Seibold.

VISUAL ART

- **Art Lick Gallery**: Presenting new works by SF artists Luiz Da Rosa & David Seibold. From Da Rosa's furniture pieces to Seibold's paintings, both artists create a show of surface textures & color, visual impact & form that give evidence to the pulse felt beneath. Recep. Oct. 13, 7:30-10 p.m. On view thru Nov. 4, Wed.-Sat., 12-7 p.m.; Sun. 12-6 p.m. 4147 19th St./Collingwood, SF. 621-5131.

MUSIC

- **'Feeding the Flame'—Songs By Men To End AIDS**: A concert celebrating a soon-to-be-released album features Romanovsky & Phillips, The Flirtations, Josh White Jr., Gary Lapow, Willie Sordillo with Flor de Cana. Oct. 13 at 8 p.m. \$15 at Different Light, Headlines, Mama Bears; \$30 rev. seat; \$60 (CD/cassette); \$100 (CD/cassette, recep.). First Congregational Church, Post & Mason, SF. Rich, 928-3966.

CABARET

- **The Flirtations & Tom Ammann**: The a capella & gay activist group. The Flirtations, with special guest comic Tom Ammann. Oct. 14 at 8 p.m. \$10. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell, SF. 885-0750.

PERFORMANCE

- **The Architecture of Catastrophic Change**: By George Coates Performance Works, a response to violent change, the performance celebrates survival strategies created by cultures undergoing cataclysmic change. Oct. 17-Nov. 11, plays Wed.-Sun. at 8 p.m. \$12-32. Performance Works, 110 McAllister, SF. 392-SHOW.

NIGHTCLUB SPECTACLE

- **Cybersex, An Evening of Futuristic Delights**: Music, performance, etc. featuring Iao Core, Bambi & The Exterminating Angel, Danielle Willis, Jon Longhi, *Vegas in Space*, Cyberotic Love Act, Aggrotech Magazine & special live video. Oct. 11 at 9 p.m. \$7. DNA Lounge, 375 11th St., SF. 558-8112.

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10-14-90 John Dilao
Tropical Breeze
Tropical Variety
Comedy Night Wednesday 9-11
10-17 Marga Gomez
Ngaio Bealium
Karen Ripley
Rocky Cologne

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Miss Gay San Francisco
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Widow

(Continued from page 34)

and I would put 90 percent of all marriages I know in that category.

The institution is based on compromise, with one party tyrannizing the other and the other party putting up with it. That is certainly true in my book. The marriage of Lucy and Captain Marsden is really a replication of the Civil War.

At one point in the early stages of the book, I literally blocked out the marriage on a map of the Civil War so that certain events in their relationship correspond to actual battles.

Lucy recognizes and accepts her husband's intense love for his childhood "friend," Ned. She comes to terms with the fact that he loves him more than her, and doesn't hold it against him. Were people more accepting back then?

I've read a lot of 19th-century letters and one of the things I realized is that these extraordinary love letters between men and men and women and women show that homosexuality has always existed well before Freud said there was such a thing. It was less self-conscious. It was more acceptable precisely because it was nameless. "You boys are spending too much time together." "Are you sure you want to live together?" It wasn't categorized as troubled. So, I do explore these beautiful kinds of relationships. There is a trusting in them.

Did your publisher or editor suggest that you tone down the emphasis on same sex relationships in order for the book to be more successful?

No, I had a plan. Also, I'm gay. Many of my best friends are women. In some strange way and as I get older, I used to be embarrassed to say this but I have more respect for women than I do for men. Women are more evolved.

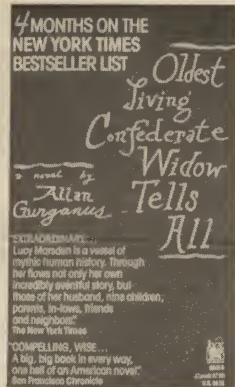
I can tell you that being gay has cost me things. If I had written on the back of my book that Allan Gurganus lives with his wife Marion in Chapel Hill and has two children, Ethan and Ariel, some things that didn't happen to my book would have.

But it's important for me to be out. I try to live my principles in the world. If enough of us who have public respect and public lives would let this be a natural part of our lives, it would be better for everyone.

You have the backing of Random House. You have received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. Steven Spielberg wants to make your book into a movie. NBC is interested in a mini-series. You are courted by the mainstream, but you

21 Bands In LGBA

Lesbian and Gay Bands of America (LGBA), the national organization of lesbian and gay concert/marching bands from across the United States now numbers 21 member bands. At its semiannual conference held in Vancouver in conjunction with Gay Games III and Cultural Festival, LGBA formally accepted the Pacific Coast Freedom Band of Long Beach, Calif., and the Rose City Gay Freedom Band of Port-



seem to be very much against the status quo.

What I'm thrilled to have done is really write a popular book about the death of the patriarchy, which for me is what the book is all about. The failures of the fathers to understand what is really important. To lead us properly. And the ascendancy of an alternative vision—not "family" in the traditional sense—of creating one's own family and being loyal and connected to a group of one's own choosing, which is really what I see in the gay community.

The great story of what's gone on in the urban gay communities of the 1980s has yet to be written. It wasn't just a moment in political history but an aesthetic moment. A joining of civic concern and a joy in the media, a campy Charles Ludlam theatricality, a kind of dead earnest Brechtian theatre with the talent of all those people and all those nights talking about what must be done as an alternative to what's not being done.

In the book, you start off each chapter with a quote from the Bible. The Bible is frequently used by religious fundamentalists to justify their claims that homosexuality is a sin and therefore homosexuals should be denied certain civil rights. How can you support gay rights and support the Bible at the same time?

I think that anybody who would write off the Bible as a work of literature is deluded and infinitely impoverished for it. For one thing our entire literature is based on it. So, not to know the Bible is not to know one of the top ten books of all time. The Bible has been used so much against gay people and I think its time we took it back. Show that it argues for compassion and inclusion in humanity.

It's not just a law book. If you discard everything that has ever hurt you, you will not have a family, you will not have a lover, you won't have a tradition, you won't have a history. We need to go back to the sources and take back what is useful and use it. ▼

land, Ore., as full member bands. Also accepted was the Emerald City Lesbian and Gay Freedom Band of Seattle, Wash., as a band in formation.

The bands from Long Beach, Portland and Seattle join member bands in Atlanta, Baltimore, Bay Area, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami/Ft. Lauderdale, Minneapolis/St. Paul, New York, Philadelphia, Phoenix, San Diego, San Francisco and Washington, DC. ▼

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EAST BAY BOTTOM SEEKS any race (black A+), no one-nighters, save sex, HIV+, must have 8" or more. Me: 49, 5'8", 145 lbs. Ext. 3343

LEGALERT, TAN, HAIRY, DEFINED, I want you. Me: 6', 170 lbs, healthy, artsy, built wants to lick your thighs and calves. Ext. 3342

GBM, 32, 5'10", 155 LBS, in good shape seeks guy, 18-30 yrs., in good shape for friendship and fun. Ext. 3341

GWM, 33, BLONDE HAIR AND BLUE eyes, large build, seeks dominate Asian, Bi/Gay topman. I am fr/active, grk/passive and give great massages. Ext. 3340

SKINNY WM BOTTOM WANTS "take-charge-topman". I am 5'6", bl/bl, HIV-, love to suck and am willing to give my cute butt to you, friendly A+. Ext. 3339

BLACKMAN HOT, TRIMSHOUGHT BY GWM, 5'11", 165 lbs, handsome, well endowed, for intense sex. Ext. 3338

ASIAN MAN WANTED FOR friendship and massage exchange by gentle, heavy GWM, professional. Ext. 3337

STABLE GWM SEEKS YOUNGER Asian/Latino for relationship. You are 21-30 yrs., slim, smooth, cultured, steady job with a like for older men. I am 46 (look early 30's), 5'11", 165 lbs, into travel, dining, dancing, classics, Broadway. Ext. 3336

BLD/BL, 24, 6'2", 185 LBS AND goodlooking seeks young, goodlooking partners for a safe three way. If you are under 27 yrs., light and smooth - let's talk. Ext. 3335

SEXY HOT MAN, 29, 5'10", 170 lbs, hunky, hairy stud mufin wants monogamous relation with a hairy older man. Cuddling and kissing A+. Ext. 3334

YOUNG GM, 24, SEEKS ATTRACTIVE COUPLE for healthy 3-ways. My experience is limited, my enthusiasm is not! Ext. 3333

HIV+ WHITE SEEKS HIV+ BLACK! gwm, 33, 6'2", 195 LBS, seeks tall, slender GBM, East Bay. Like hiking, camping, dining, cooking, church, opera, love and sex. Must be independent. Ext. 3332

HELP! MY DESIGN CLIENTS ARE BORING ME TO DEATH! I need someone to bring creativity back into my life. I am 28, 5'9", 145 lbs, br/bl, Fr/act/pass, Gr/pass. You are creative, independent, artist with a good humor. Let's talk! Ext. 3331

GENEROUS GWM, 45, 5'7", FF bottom, wants to be pussy dild in lingerie/bl/str studs w/taoos A+. Latin preferred. Ext. 3330

GAM SEEKS GAM/GWM for love, rel., sex. Me: 30, 5'9", 140 lbs, nice body, Gr/act, Fr/pass, smooth, masc, hiv-, ext. 3329

GWM, 35, 6'1", gdlkg, HIV+, oral expert, love to service men who enjoy it. Ext. 3328

BOLD, HIV, HEFTY GBM, seeks chunky, bold GWM/GLM. Me: 28, 5'10", 230 lbs, trim beard, brn/brn. You: 30+, 5'9", 190 lbs+. Extra points for hairy chest/back, beard, light eyes. Ext. 3329

MC ME NOTHING COMPARES 2U? GAM, 25, 5'9", 130 lbs, cute, HIV-, love to bike ride, concerts, romantic getaways, seeks GWM, sincere, goodlooking, clean shaven, str. acting, under 30 yrs. Ext. 3328

SUGAR DADDY WANTED! Me: Hot, smooth, muscular body, great face, Bi, WM, 30's, could use a little help. Ext. 3327

WM, 35, 5'10", 170 LBS, HANDSOME, clean cut, butch, athletic build, hairy, needs oral service, all ages (18+). Your eagerness to please is more important than good looks. Ext. 3326

MUSCULAR BLACK MEN WANTED, Bi/G with good looks. Me: Very goodlooking, musc., 33, bld/blu, 5'8", 160 lbs, looking for hot sessions. Ext. 3324

ACCOMMODATING ITAL./AMERICAN, 43, 5'9", 165 lbs, short brn hair, beard, hazel eyes, seeks men, 35-48 yrs., Am/F/A open to more. Ext. 3323

P-SDRINKER LIKES TO DRINK of goodlooking, built Asian, smooth, white studs, 18-20 yrs. I am real thirsty! Ext. 3306

HOT, GOODLOOKING ITALIAN, HIV-, with great butt, wants same for hot raunchy butt-play, etc. Ext. 3325

MONOGAMOUS DAD, MW, 43, 5'11", 170 lbs, br/gr, blue eyes, trim beard, hairy, hung, HIV-, regular job days, busy artist at night, travel to shows, seeks monogamous other half, 30-40 yrs., smaller, WM, HIV-. Ext. 3328

LET ME HEFT, LICK and suck your big balls while you stroke your tool. Discreet, 35 y.o. Latino will please you. Ext. 3324

JUST OUT! Goodlooking GWM, 43, 5'10", 155 lbs, seeks 30-45 y.o. GWM, WC area, for friend and safe sex. Shy but eager, good shape, no fem. Ext. 3323

EAST BAY BI - curious, 32, 180 lbs, 6'1", brn/brn, Latin lover seeks hot, masc. guy/s for stimulating encounter. Ext. 3322

WM SEEKS DOMINATING, big BM's, 50+ y.o. to service and scene. I am 58, 6', 160 lbs, G/H/D and Buti, use/abuse, s/sex, open to grp service and action. Ext. 3321

JOCKEY BRIEFS, GWM, slim, athletic, hands, seeks "brief" encounters. Ext. 3320

ATTRACTIVE WM, desires hot GBM, to fill my hungry hole. Let's talk! Ext. 3319

GOODLOOKING SPANIARD, 34, 175 lbs, 5'11", HIV+, wants face ride by hdsmd, hairy, bearded, masc. men, all color, 30-50 y.o., no fems. Ext. 3318

HOT, SLIM ASIAN, 24, 5'6", seeks masc. top, 25-35 yrs., any race for friendship and safe hot sex. Ext. 3317

SEXY FRENCH-ITALIAN, 33, 5'10", 155 lbs, gym toned, looking for friendly Latino or BM, 25-35 yrs., with great body. Ext. 3289

STRAIGHT WHITE MALE, 46, tired of females, seeks weekly blow job from older male, TV or TS. Ext. 3290

SHORT GUY FLAT TOP, likes to hang out, smokes cig's, 69 y.o. with modern minded guys, 27-35 yrs. Ext. 3291

HOT CHUBBY GWM, looking for hot times. I am 5'11", 260 lbs, hairy, mustache, 40's. Give me a call! Ext. 3292

GWM, 46, OBEDIENT BOTTOM, novice, seeks Asian or Black master. Ext. 3275

CONCORD, 34 Y.O. MEN, grn/brn, short hair/beard, looking for relationship. Clean/Sober, 5'7". You: TLR/YNG, no one-nighters or phorn-sex! Ext. 3274

EAST BAY GWM, 43, 5'9", 145 lbs, nice body, stable, affectionate, seeks GBM, 35-50 yrs., BJ, athletic with similar qualities for friendship and safe sex. Ext. 3270

bm, 39, 6'2", 190 LBS, brn hair, beard, mustache, seeks 40-55 y.o. WM for good times. Be versatile, smoker OK. Ext. 3269

GWM, PROF. 5'9", MID 30'S, goodlooking, GDLVR, top/versatile, wants GBM/GAM, honest, trustworthy, for longterm relationship. Ext. 3241

UNCUT LATIN, HIV+, Fr/La, Gr/p, discreet, seeks bears, daddies, masters for man to men sex. Willing to please! Ext. 3245

WELL-TONED GWM, seeking romance, 36, 6'1", 175 lbs, bl/bl, looking for relationship oriented man, 25-40 y.o., enjoy sex, outdoors and beach. Ext. 3247

SUCCESSFUL MAN SEEKS the right GM for friendship, travel and, if fate will have it, life partnership. You: very intelligent, well-educated, ambitious, hard-working, monogamous, no drugs. Let's go skiing, sky diving, biking, dancing. Maybe one success will lead to another. Ext. 3266

SHAVED HEAD HITCHHIKER looking for home/job, 29, GP/FA, nasty yet-well-bred, 5'7", 130 lbs. Ext. 3282

BLONDE/RDHD SWIMMER, healthy HIV+, looking for similar for friend + fun, clean shaven, loves outdoors too. Ext. 3327

FAIR HAIRED, light skinned Medit., 29, seeks smooth, boyish, blondish bottoms, 20-35 yrs., to service my 8" +. Ext. 3307

STABLE GUY, 35, TOP, looking for furry butts over 30 yrs., sane, literate, sense of humor (just SF). Ext. 3304

I AM INTERESTED TO MEET A WM, age 30-40, for friendship or serious relationship. I am Asian, 33 y.o., 5'9", 145 lbs, goodlooking. Ext. 3304

SECRET BUTTEATER! In-shape top, 35, 5'10", 150 lbs, seeks submissive, younger guy, to lick on his oversize tool and muscular butt. Ext. 3303

ATTRACTIVE ITALIAN, 40, 5'10", 150 lbs, brn/brn, mustache, workout-body, uncut, HIV+, I am very oral, my kind of man is masculine, in good shape, between 28-50 yrs and with mustache. Ext. 3302

HANDSOME GAM, 26, 5'9", 145 lbs, athletic, intelligent, prof., HIV-, seeks similar GWM, 25-35 yrs., for friendship or possible relationship. Ext. 3301

HANDSOME GWM, YOUNG 60 YRS., 5'10", 160 lbs, trim beard, seeking GM under 50 yrs., masculine, cut, hairy, versatile. Ext. 3255

UNCUT GWM, 5'11", attractive, seeks dominant, shorter, masculine GM any race, 18-35 yrs., well hung, demanding, for service and love. Ext. 3256

BLOND SEEKS BLOND! Redheads are also welcome, should live in East Bay area. Me: Blond, attractive, smooth, solid tan, into dating and oral play. HIV-. Ext. 3257

GOODLOOKING GWM, 26, 6'2", brn/brn, 160 lbs, seeks hot and hairy daddy type for one on one. Must be versatile. Ext. 3258

ATTRACTIVE GWM, 31, 145 lbs, 5'9", HIV-, seeks GAM under 25 y.o. for friendship and hopefully romance. Ext. 3245

GWM FUZZY BEAR, 36, 6', would like to meet Latin, Black Asian men, football-build for fun and friendship. Ext. 3263

UNCUT LATIN, HIV+, likes to give pleasure to hot, horny men. Can travel! Ext. 3259

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PROF. DANCER, 30, brn/hazel, HIV+, seeks other HIV+ for companionship, conversation, fun. Blonde A+. Ext. 3315

LET'S TRADE DAYTIME MASSAGE. 40 y.o. GWM, 5'8", 170 lbs, goodlooking, seeks massage partners in reasonable good shape. Ext. 3315

NOVICE WOULD LIKE introduction to vacuum pumping! I'm Latin, 35, uncut. You have got a pump, experience and patience. Ext. 3325

SEXY CONCORD SON, into dark, hairy dadd who desire intense, wet, oral action. I am 5'6", 130 lbs, brown hair/eyes. Ext. 3300

MASCULINE, HANDSOME, DARK MAN, 41 y.o., friendly, muscular, HIV-, into hot sex. Let's groan together. I have a loaded gun, ready to shoot. Ext. 3283

FAMILY MAN, 43, 5'8", 165 lbs, masc., discreet, seeks friendship with shy young men. Ext. 3284

YOUNG GWM COUPLE, 21/24, seeking GWM couples, 20-27 yrs., for fun sex. HIV+. No strings, femie or drugs, be in great shape. Ext. 3285

ORAL WITH MANUAL FEELS GREAT! Handsome GWM, seeks hot guys over 30 yrs. old, who like to give and get with mouth and hands. Ext. 3286

GOODLOOKING HISPANIC, shy, sensitive, HIV+, 30, 5'8", 150 lbs, mustache, wears glasses, wants a goodlooking WM for romantic times or/and friendship. Ext. 3287

GWM FOR HOT SAFE SEX, healthy, 42 y.o., young looking, hairy, with thick 8"+ seeking GWM's, 18-35 yrs., for fun and friendship. Ext. 3288

UNCUT HIV- GWM/GBM, 30-45 YRS., SOUGHT by very handsome, prof., GWM, 31, HIV-, 6', 200 lbs, non-smoker/drinker for gr/act, sex and possible relationship. Ext. 3228

GWM, 39, SEEKS FRIEND, and/or lover, HIV-. You: 30-50 y.o. GWM and no interest in casual sex? Do you like being doted and cared about? Let's talk! Ext. 3225

GWM CHUBBY, looking for fun leading to a possible relationship. I am 5'10", 270 lbs, hairy. Call - you won't be sorry! Ext. 3221

BLOND AND BLUE GWM, 27, 5'10", 145 lbs, seeks Asian-American, 25-30 y.o., for tennis, friendship and more. Ext. 3211

LATINOS OR ASIANS, shaved butts, smooth skinned bottoms wanted by sexy, masc., hung, hairy chested GWM (SF). Ext. 3195

BB, BI, STRAIGHT MEN for sex or possible relationship. Me: BM, 200 lbs, 30's, HIV-, You: Latino, PAC SL, masc. or board A+, late 30's or 40's. Ext. 3164

HOT GWM, 42, 5'8", 180 LBS, 7+ "/5", masc., nice lkg and NS, wants to sleep with you and to kiss, rim and pump you all night long. Ext. 3091

ASIAN SEEKS ASIAN!! am 27, 5'7", 120 lbs and I am looking for someone for friendship and/or relationship. Ext. 3214

ATTRACTIVE GWM, 6', brn/grn, mustache, desires GWM, 30-40, neat, intell., prof. to spend time with. Ext. 3326

WM, 43, SEEKS GLOVED FFA, master for total domination. Phases: over 45 y.o., bold, hairy, s/m cbt optional. Ext. 3279

BUTCH JOCK BOTTOM, GBM, 35, 175 lbs, handsome, masculine, leather, seeks, hot, hung tops, TT, prolonged buttplay. Ext. 3280

TALL, HANDSOME, SINCERE, healthy and happy, HIV+, looking for same. I am 6'3", bl/bl, 190 lbs, 26 y.o., with varied interests. No BS from this boy. Ext. 3281

GODDLOOKING, safe guy needs sex, sex, sex, sex, sex, sex! Ext. 3327

GWM, 36, BLUE/BLOND, fit, attractive East Bay seeks a dating HIV- relationship oriented friend. Ext. 3172

SPANKING YOUR BUTT! Hot topman, 33, 5'11", 180 lbs, into over-the-knee spankings and hot hot buttplay. Ext. 3157

OPEN YOUR ...! Hot tongue and mouth, ready to bath your privet parts! Ext. 3160

GWM, 33, 5'10", 135 LBS, slim, goodlooking and nice, I am looking for lasting relationship with nice and sexy GWM. Be into safe sex and a lot of love. HIV-. Ext. 3186

HOT ASIAN, LATIN mid-day fun wanted by goodlooking, athletic, healthy, blond, 36, 6'2", 170 lbs, discreet, uninhibited, passionate. Ext. 3045

GBM, 190 LBS, COMPETITION TYPE, bodybuilder, artist, bright, affectionate, monogamous, seeks similar GWM. Ext. 3177

UNIQUE ASIAN STUD! Me: 25, 5'9", 175 lbs, muscular, humorous, love to dance. You: Mr. Right with similar qualities. Ext. 3217

WANTED: TOTAL SLAVE! Two bear type masters seek submissive doc/slave to use/abuse. Call SIRS at Ext. 3107

GAM SEEKS GWM, for fun, friendship and more. I am 26, 5'8", 145 lbs, handsome, clean-cut, in good shape. You: similar under 36 yrs. Ext. 3145

LOOKING FOR LOVE: Hi-Tech prof., 40, romantic, horny, many interests. You are in 30's, stable and optimistic, maybe Latin/Asian. Ext. 3035

PLAYFULL, SENSUAL AND AFFECTIONATE, safe sex bottom, 36, 6'2", 165 lbs, blond, seeks hunky or slender fatching top for warm romp and more. Ext. 3105

WM WITH A STRONG LIBIDO, 32, 5'8", 170 lbs, hairy, bl/bl, wants top or btm action with white or hisp. male with good builds. No drugs! Ext. 3179

ROMANTIC HUNK, GWM, 30, 6', 180 lbs, great body, great face. Looking for similar for fun and dates. Are you cute? Ext. 3141

BABY Faced CHUBBY! I am 32, 290 lbs, 6', and looking for handsome chaser who is above 5'11", 33-46 yrs. I enjoy guys in leather, facial hair A+, safe sex with fun. Ext. 3220

PACIFIC OVERTURES, handsome, smooth GAM, seeks masculine partners under 40 yrs., for weekend dates, concerts and romantic walks on the beach. I am 29, 5'6", 125 lbs, outgoing. Ext. 3312

SUCCESSFUL MAN SEEKS the right GM for friendship, travel and, if fate will have it, life partnership. You: intelligent, well-educated, ambitious, hard-working, monogamous. No drugs, non-smoker. For fun? Sking, sky diving, biking, dancing. Maybe one success will lead to another! Ext. 3311

GWM, TOP VERSATILE, 41, 6'1", 160 lbs, br/bl, HIV+, healthy, seeks safe sex, romance, friendship with GWM, 30-45 yrs. Ext. 3310

LOOKING FOR LEATHER TOP GWM, 28, 6', brn/brn, very handsome, bottom, seeks hot leather top for BD, SM, FF, real hot safe sex. Ext. 3309

TEACH AND TEASE! Master FF, desires journeyman to share experiences of wondrous ecstasy. Slow, patient, loving. Be a brave little boy and call daddy! Ext. 3308

SONDMA CD, hot bottom, 30, 150 lbs, 5'8", seeks BLD, use/abuse, buttplay, kinky sex. Anything you want sir! Ext. 3315

GOODLOOKING, HOT, HORNY, dark haired, tall man, wants to meet men with big "size", 30-60 years old for hot sex - day and night - I have a video camera and tapes. Call now. Ext. 3314

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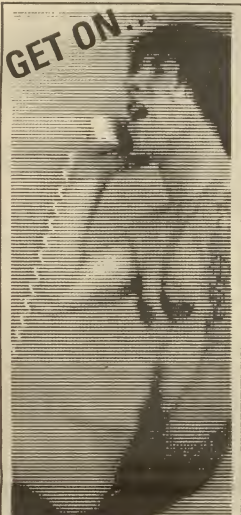
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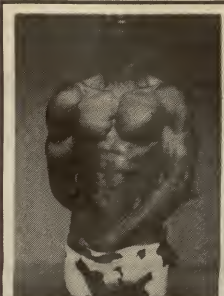
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NURTURING TOUCH**
Skilled intuitive bodywork by
certified massage therapist.
Swedish — Esalen, Acupres-
sure, breath work. \$40/ 1 1/2-2 hrs.
of relaxation.
SHAUN, CMT
652-4354 E41

CENTERING BODYWORK

CERTIFIED MESSAGE
Jim • 558-9688

**DEEP TISSUE
SWEDISH-SHIATSU**
Given by a Real
Hot-Looking Guy
call 775-4771 24hrs

**Sensual Full
Body Massage**
\$30-\$50 in • \$40-\$60 Out
Larry 252-0644 24 hrs.

PROFESSIONAL MASSAGE



Robert 567-6015

**SUPER NICE AND
HANDSOME MAN**
6', 195, Athlete Blond, 45" chest, 33"
waist, expert full body nude Swedish
rub by a man who knows. \$45/\$60
BEN 292-5245
U can reach me most times

SAN MATEO
Bodywork by handsome
750 hr certified masseur.
Sensual. Therapeutic.
Joe 342-5035

621 2203

VISIT HEAVEN!

For an
Ultimate
Sensual
Massage
Experience
Call
Mike & Jeff 641-0780

Total body massage — the way
you like it. Larry 621-8560. E41

A Tantric experience.
3 hr. hot tub session \$90.
1 1/2 hr. Swedish massage \$45.
30 yo., 5'6", 140#. Brn/gm.
Kolo 292-FAGG. Out only. E41

Safe, sensual, satisfying,
Swedish/Polarity massage. 2 hr.
\$45 out only. SF only. 3 hr. with
sauna, jacuzzi \$90 before 5 p.m.,
\$100 after. 27, 5'10", 135#,
blnd./blu. Gem 561-1423 E41

It's Delightful! It's Delovely! It's
de best massage in town! David,
861-9940. Handsome, always
available. E41

**HANDS DOWN
A GREAT MASSAGE**
Professional man offers Swedish,
Shiatsu, or a combination. Quiet and
comfortable setting with Table, or out-
calls and travel. Let your body spend
some quality time with a certified pair
of hands & soul.

TED 255-0421
Relax, release and let go!
\$40, 55, 70 for 1, 1 1/2, 2 hours-in.
Excellent, non-sexual, money well spent.
—rrruoffflll—

NURTURING
• Days/Eves
• In/Out
Christopher
255-5964

People and Personals

MASSAGE

SENSUAL MASSAGE
Relax... Relax... Relax... I have the touch and love giving massage... a professional massage using oil, on a table, in a warm quiet studio; certified, \$28 for 75 minutes, \$40 for 2 hours.
Bruce 626-2026
(in the Castro) Certified.

—MAN TO MAN—
Full Body Massage



Ram Photo 553-8172
Anthony 931-2395

GORGEOUS BLOND
Sensual but firm msg. by CMT.
Joe, 22, 6'1", 200, BB, 512-1514
E42

BANGKOK
Sensual msg. by a Thai stud.
Strong hands, tan, athletic.
\$45in, \$60out, Ramli 821-1674.
E46

DISCREET MASSAGE
Swedish sensual-erotic by hunky big man-230-private garden vu \$30/in 282-9410
E43
San Jose • Swedish Massage
\$25/hr, \$35/1½ hrs, in call
Anthony (408) 288-6169
E42

I strive to achieve
EXCELLENCE
in life and my full-body
erotic massage is no exception!
I'm a very defined,
handsome, blond gymnast.
\$40 Kevin 864-1190
E41

WHY NOT
Experience Muscle Magic.
Handsomeness Muscular Masseur is
Warm, Friendly and Committed to
Quality! Try the best! Nick
255-6157
E41

All men 50+ • Best \$35 massage.
Great! Nick 552-5059.
E45

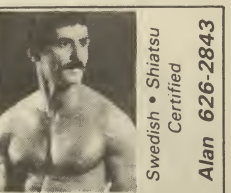
HOT EURASIAN BB
Will give total body
massage in/out
E. Bay OK, Lee 839-5029
E42

Marin-SF, Hot BB Massage 10 am-
10 pm \$50/70 Ken 459-4217
E49

Asian American Masseur
Certified, \$50/\$60. 285-9019
E03/91

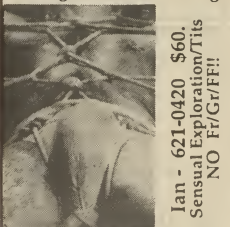
SAN JOSE HUNK
6'1", 190, sexy, masc, gorgeous,
hot bod. (408) 559-7524
E48

Esalen-Swedish Massage
—professionally trained masseur
with table & 12yrs experience.
—extremely comfy environment
—centrally located \$35/75min.
—experience massage as an art form
Chip 252-1587



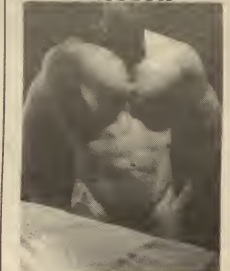
Swedish • Shiatsu
Certified
Alan 626-2843
LOOKING FOR ECSTASY?
— Call Me —
VIDAL 552-2748

Massage + Sensual Bondage



GREAT MESSAGE
Mike
Dark blond bodybuilder \$45
255-0833

PUERTO RICAN MASSEUR



Revitalizing Effect
647-4423

MELLOW MASSAGE
Acupressure/Esalen style.
Firm sensual by athletic man.
Steve 821-2985 \$35
E42

Masterly Compleat Massage
by Versatile E. Bay CMT,
from strong to sensual,
\$35/75 min. Greg 547-1364
E43

X-Handsomeness X-Muscular
I use my rock hard body to give a
deep firm hard massage. Brad
861-1805
E42

ASIAN LEGEND
Handsomeness, Sweet, Sensational
Friendly 750-1772 Chan
E41

Young Yuppies looking for a Firm
Hand. I'm 5'8", 165lb., Hand-
some. Tony 567-4473.
E41

WANNA MELT?
18th & Noe, Certified, \$35
Jim 864-2430
E41

Young and Very Attractive Asian
Student knows how to make you
feel good, \$60.
Please leave message.
Thai 804-6182
E41

Erotic mass. by playful nude white
male with muscular, smooth
body. Very handsome and sexy.
365-3178
E41

MINNESOTA
I'm a straight forward attractive
young man who gives excellent
massages. I'm 22 yrs old, charge
\$45. Call Danny 929-7511.
E41

3-WAY MASSAGE
The ultimate in massage by 2,
gorgeous guys. We know where
you need it, 282-6973
E41

PHYSICAL ATTRACTION
V-handsomeness Scandinavian man,
weight lifter, friendly, 8" cut,
blond/blue, 6', 185.
Especially like small
Asian & Latin men.
Erotic nude massage.
45 in 55 out 931-3263 Ron 24 hrs

JUAN-CARLOS

Regular Swedish/Shiatsu Massage
Private Potrero Hill Studio
Discounts for Morning Appts,
Repeats, and PWAs
State Certified
285-9318 • pgr. 896-8550

Erotic bodywork plus
conscious breathing
equals transformation!
978-5672 (Dial your # at beep)
E41

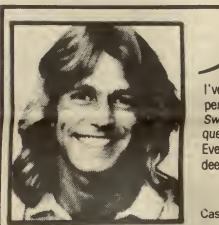
Experience soothing
prostate and full body
massage by certified
hands. Chris 285-9710
E43

COLT-GROOMING
621-2203

Short Stop to Release
Get int. Massage by 3 Young
Goodlooking Asians. Call Lon or
Nam or Mike 788-0380
E44

NO-HYPE MASSAGE
Handsome, Friendly WM BB, 31,
5'10", 165lbs., certified, gives a
terrific, healing, Swedish
massage, \$45/in (Pac. Heights).
Mike 929-8410
E42

SENSUAL MASSAGE
Essential Kneads
Michael, 898-9349, Marin/SF
E42



High Strength Massage-Plus
treat yourself in the afternoon.
\$40 in the Castro
Phillip
864-5566 Hot, Built, Expert!

Erotic • nude • hdsom 291-9590
E44

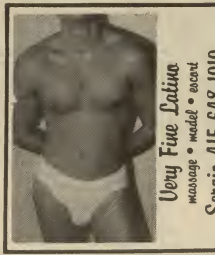
EAST BAY BEAR
This lumberjack's strong
hands give a deep erotic
massage. Handsome, Hairly,
Healthy & Hung.
Andy 582-2914, 24hrs.

LUSH, HOT OIL MASSAGE
RELAXING NURTURING SATISFYING
JAS DEWSNAP
Certified Massage Therapist
JAS/MASSAGE 648-3704
\$40 - 1½ hours • discount to PWAs

Physical & Emotional
Well Being
11 years experience
Brad Kaplan, M.S.
550-1014
A nurturing, therapeutic 1½-2½ hour
deep tissue massage by a certified, caring
professional. I incorporate Swedish, Polari-
ty, Esalen and Reflexology Techniques.
1½ hrs \$50 / 2 hrs \$60 / 2½ hrs \$70
PWA DISCOUNT

CHRISTOPHER
Is a good looking 28 year old
Italian. He is 5'8" and 155 lbs.
well-built with dark brown hair
and clean shaven. Offers an ex-
cellent massage. Junior and
Senior discounts available.
(415) 621-8832

SHIATSU
...can be a nurturing alternative for you.
Experience for yourself the Restorative Effects of this
Oriental Rejuvenating Treatment.
• CASTRO AREA
• CERTIFIED SINCE 1981
• FREQUENCY DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE
MICHAEL QUINTAL
861-4472 \$40/75min.



Very Fine Latina
massage • model • escort
Sergio 415-648-1919

A Gentleman's Gentleman
This handsome, young, lean CMT
with strong hands and warm
heart enjoys giving sensual and
nurturing massages to gentlemen
of all ages and ethnicity.
Kyle 752-6334
E41

Full body erotic massage! In the
buff, near SF Airport. 40/60 by
Young Blond Kenny, 343-7140
E41

East Bay full body massage.
Montclair/Piedmont, \$30
George 601-0451
E41

HEALING MASSAGE
Nurturing, relaxing sensual full
body attention from a strong,
skilled, sensitive holistic healer.
1½ hr., \$45. Jason Serinus, CMT,
CH 444-4169
E41

Hot blond stripper/swimmer.
Kinky top, \$50 Nick 255-6433
E41

Deep Swedish massage by blond
bodybuilder. 75 min. full body/cer-
tified. \$35 David 221-7364
E41

Stephen F. Pullis, C.M.T.
I've been providing a wonderful massage ex-
perience for 6 years now. Each session includes
Swedish, Esalen, Shiatsu, and Radiance Techni-
ques, delivered through firm, sensitive hands.
Every aspect of your session is designed for your
deep relaxation, balancing, and rejuvenation.
Be well and Call Me Soon, Stephen
864-2430
Castro Location, In or Out Calls, Gift Certificates

CUTE & ROMANTIC
TEDDY BEAR
Hdsom & Masculine Latino
Guy, 26, Smooth Swimmer's
Build, 5'7", 140lbs, delicious
buns, passionate & versatile.
Let my hands relax
& please you.
CARLOS 465-0231
\$50 in \$65 out 24 hrs.

"Get Dildoed" or a Paddling Hot
time. Nick \$25. 885-1471
E42



photo by Original
Black, Handsome, Muscular
and Smooth, 20 yr. old! 5'8",
155lbs., Grt Shape 541-5040
E41

Mitch "The Topman for Men"
864-0538 shake my moneymakr
E41

December 1990 Issue
PLAYGUY
COVER BOY
GEOFFREY 255-9776
E41
Swedish Massage by Blond
Bodybuilder, \$35 in/75 min.
Certified David 221-7364
E41
Young College Student
Adam: 5'7", 150lbs, black hr,
brown eyes, nice tan, warm &
friendly, in/out, 626-3118
E41

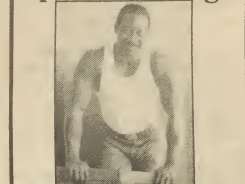
Rick Donovan
Star of
The Bigger the Better • Giants
On Top • King Size, etc. etc.
TOP • SAFE • In/Out
26yrs, 5'11", 172lbs, 10½"
621-5721
Private Party, Not an Agency

IT'S HARD
To find a great masseur.
Look no further, you've found one
in me. I'm an ext. handsome, 5'10",
190lb. bodybuilder who will give
you a superior, full body massage.
Call Robert when you want a
professional bodyworker.
587-8015, 24hrs.

CMT 30 GdLk Luis 285-4875
E42

A DREAM COME TRUE MASSAGE
by a handsome muscular bodyworker
DAVID 552-0473

Sports Massage



Bodywork that is absolutely superb for the
physically fit and active but equally great for job
related or emotional stress. Methods from Sports-
massage, Trigger Point Therapy, Acupressure,
Shiatsu, Swedish/Esalen, Polarity, Reflexology,
Deep Tissue, P.I. Compression, Cross Fiber and
more, covers the entire body but also offers ways
to treat specific local problems.
This work is a rare blend of skill, knowledge and ex-
perience coupled with a healer's care and sensitivity.
\$40-1hr. \$50-1½ hrs. \$60-2hrs.
Frequency Discounts
9 am-9 pm
For appointment call
Veet Sandeha (415) 931-6781

MODELS & ESCORTS

Titillating Nice Guy



Indulge w/me in frisbee or fantasy.
Friendly/clean cut, 6' 6" 175lb
athlete, 6+ divingboard. Quality
bottom. Tops in conversation.
Lv. message for discreet callback.
Travel OK.
Attentive/safe.
Take the first plungel
ANDY 921-6064

Black, Handsome, Muscular
and Smooth, 20 yr. old! 5'8",
155lbs., Grt Shape 541-5040
E41

Mitch "The Topman for Men"
864-0538 shake my moneymakr
E41

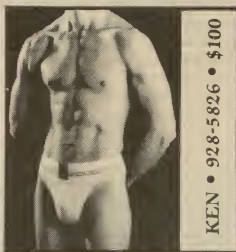
December 1990 Issue
PLAYGUY
COVER BOY
GEOFFREY 255-9776
E41

Swedish Massage by Blond
Bodybuilder, \$35 in/75 min.
Certified David 221-7364
E41
Young College Student
Adam: 5'7", 150lbs, black hr,
brown eyes, nice tan, warm &
friendly, in/out, 626-3118
E41

Rick Donovan
Star of
The Bigger the Better • Giants
On Top • King Size, etc. etc.
TOP • SAFE • In/Out
26yrs, 5'11", 172lbs, 10½"
621-5721
Private Party, Not an Agency

People and Personals

MODELS & ESCORTS



KEN • 928-5826 • \$100

Pg. 77 November, 864-5066
HONCHO MODEL

Hairy bearded well hung man for hire Steve, 38, 6'2", 180, 431-5974 call anytime. E41

BIG BOY
5'11" 205LBS SOLID
HANDSOME MASCULINE
CLEANCUT 27 YO
NOT LIKE THE REST
MIKE 621-9857

Santa Rosa Bottom Available for Hot Tops (707) 528-7454 E41

PARTY TRICKS
Nude Entertain. for Parties.
Hndsm, Musc. Paul 775-5031 E41

West Texas Cowboy
Chad: 22, 5'8", 160lbs, blond hair, blue eyes, nice body, smooth chest, avail. 24hrs. New. Hotels-airport, 626-2432. E41



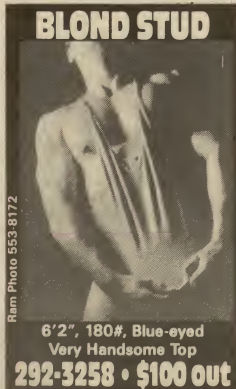
Bi Jock

Skip 821-7818

8½x6½ inches of manmeat needs spitshine. Hank 861-7379, \$60 E41

DREAM BLOND

23 yrs, 6', 170lbs, 8''c Swimmer's Build 24hrs. • \$120 out only
Brian 773-8973



BLOND STUD

6'2", 180#. Blue-eyed
Very Handsome Top
292-3258 • \$100 out

Bondage C&B ply rm 863-6536 E42

Hot New Blond. Country fed & bred. Country reared. Chad: 21, 5'8", 160lbs, smooth, 24hrs, hotels OK, 626-2432. E41

Looking for a
HOT BUFFED BODY
w/big pecs, tight abs
★ Brad ★ 441-3332 E41

HOT BLOND MAN
5'10", blue eyes, 32, 168lbs, well hung, handsome, great legs and big, well tanned, friendly, not rushed, vers., disc., Erik at 626-8449 E41

THROB THIS

Big hung stud blond thick masc. clean cut looking hot top bottom let me give you a thrill. Tanned tall & ready for you. Out call pleasure only. Older men welcomed. Let me please you, \$65 out.
JASON 810-0470
Listen for tone. Dial in your # hit # sign, I'll ring right back. E41

HOT THICK 9½"
38, 6', trim, masc. good looking top loves getting attention from hungry men.
TOM 441-0509 E41



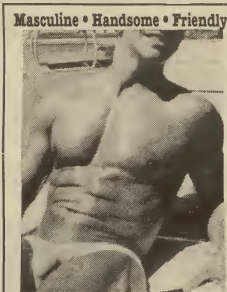
MIKE

24, 5'10", 175#, Blond/Blue
Cleancut, Muscular Stud
\$100 • 267-3032

Hot Oakland Man-to-Man Action
Gentle Top, 5'5", 142, Hairy, Hung
FR A/P, GR/A, J/O, Verbal. \$70 In
MARC 444-3204

HUNG STUD

Thick and Big
GUS (415) 469-7221



Masculine • Handsome • Friendly

DAVID 929-7336

E. BAY HOT

Yng blond well hung handsome, great legs, tight butt, tanned, friendly, no hurry, out only, older men welcome, top bottom. \$60, Jamie 482-0504. E41

Horse-hung blond 821-3245 E42

25 y.o. Bodybuilder
COLT MODEL
330-5366 E46

HOTEL CALLS

Yng blond top bottom handsome & hung will accommodate your every whim no job too big or small. Will travel. Smooth bod. Justin, 24 hrs. \$65, 810-0469

NO TIME LIMIT

Wait for tone. Dial in your # hit pound sign I will ring you right back. E41

SWIMMER



SCOTT • \$100
(415) 825-2433

ALL MUSCLE
\$80 — In only
Rob 567-9328



RAM PHOTO 553 8172

KURT • 255-4840

New Guy in Town.
Adam: 21 handsome-masculine, 5'7", 150lbs, 38"c, 29" w, blk hr, br eyes, hotels OK 626-3118 E41

I WANT YOU

Blond Bomb, 26, 6'1", 165, big tool, will travel out only anytime, handsome, sexy, clean cut, loves to get down. Older men welcome top bottom. Matt, \$60, 531-1165. Never in a Hurry E41

Leather Spandex Top 863-3862 E41



252-8157

8" Partyboy 928-5826 \$60 E46

E. Bay Sexy Italian Cyclist, 27 yrs, 8" cut. Massage & J.O., \$80/hr. Joey 658-2437 E41

Body by Jake? Not exactly
Jake, 28, 6', 185lbs, 44"c, hairy, hot, new model, blond & blue-eyed, 24hrs, hotels, 821-3457 E41

Scott: The Man's Man! 28, 6', 44"c, hairy, 32"w, blond, blue eyes, 185lbs, w/-endowed. The Manhandler 626-2432 E41

Dan 753-8604
— anytime —



TOP FUN

Good looking, friendly stud
Extra thick—Extra hung!!!
Anthony \$80.
864-6436

Boy in Boots
Young, Clean & Hung
Scott 995-4788, \$100 E44

BODIES UNLIMITED BAY AREA

Body Builders, High Quality Models
1-800-331-2639 (Bay Area)
NEW MODELS NOW IN DEMAND
(INTERVIEWING ALL TYPES)

GENTLEMAN STUD

You Want It Big. You Want It Black.
You Want It Long & Hard.
Call Marshall
995-4789 E43

30 minutes with 8" hunk for \$40.
Al 928-5826 E46

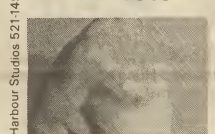
Expert Tit Work by 40 yr. old
Leatherman w/Big Nips, 6',
195lbs. Bart 235-3813, out. E43

•Sling room/24hrs 863-6536• E46

Tall Hairy Hung Loves Attention
In/Out 978-0163 E43

Laidback Model 30, 6', 175# is
safe, into exhibitionism, J/O and
video with 9" x-thick. Hot, handsome and fun at your place. \$60.
Jim 252-8607 E43

JOSHUA



Young, strong, smooth, handsome,
athletic student, 24, 160#, 5'9",
discreet, fun, safe, will travel. \$100.
267-3082

STUD

Butch • Built •
Hung • Tattoos
• Beard • Cigars
CORY
928-7572

Tall Tan Blue-Collar Top
Strong legs, hung & handsome.
Mike 821-1477, 24hrs. E42

Models Models Models
Escorts Escorts Escorts
All types shapes & sizes
Call us first — we satisfy
Guaranteed 24 hrs a day
Hotels OK, massage 821-3457 E41

Little Big Man
Solid Muscular Hunk with
rugged hndsm looks totally
masculine, 5'8", 170#, and
legs of steel 626-7392 E41

SF's 1st Calbear! Bearded, Belly,
Hairy Daddy 995-4754 E41

24 HOUR DADDY
Tall, Hairy, Big Hangers
Chad 861-7014 E41

\$30 ★ Bill 441-1054 ★ Hot! E44

BIG GUY

Gdkg. vers. student, 26, ex-
football player build (6'1",
235#, 48"c, 19" calf, 28" th).
No BS. \$75 in, \$100 out.
KEN 864-6155

SOCCER STUD



Photo: Harbour Studios (415) 521-1493

Very Muscular
Incredible Legs
Genuinely Handsome
(415) 863-BALL in/out

NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO
ALL AMERICAN
Smooth, 24 y.o., 5'10", 165lbs.,
blond, blue-eyed student.
Private, friendly. In/out, 24hrs.
Massage, too!
252-1120 CRAIG

Young Smooth & Slender

• **FUN BOY** •
Dave 864-0670 E42

Hottest of the hot!
Chip: 22, 6', 180 lbs, 42"c, 30" w,
Handsome-Masculine
24hrs Hotels Airport OK
No disappointments 626-0374 E41

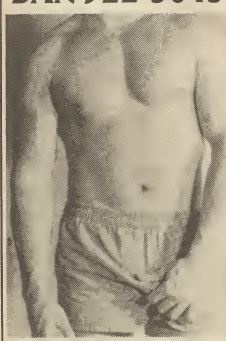
So Many Men So Little Prime.
Try Studfinders E41

Young hot Australian
Adam: 21 Handsome-masculine,
5'7", 150lbs, 38"c, 29" w, blk hr,
br eyes, hotels OK 626-3118. E41

VERY MASCULINE
VERY MUSCULAR
VERY BLACK TOP
offers bottoms the door
to their deepest fantasies
.... It's time to meet them.
JAMES 534-0982

8½ X-Thick Inches of Manhood
needs spit-shine. \$60
Hank 861-7379 E41

DAN 922-3645



Horse-Hung Jock 821-3425 E41

Brian 24hrs. 337-8136 E41

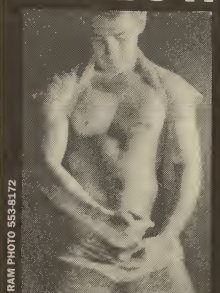


Ron 995-4729

People and Personals

MODELS & ESCORTS

JUST DO IT



RANDY 864-3133
CALLBACK REQUIRED

PHOTO BY RAM 553-8172



FRANCO 252-0775
5' 9", 175, 45c, 30w, 8 uncult

Very Tall Very Handsome Black and Smooth 995-4798 E41

LEATHER TOP MAN

Sling, Toys, F/F, TT, B/D, Butch, dirty blond, 5'9", 175, mustach, 37. Let me stretch and expand your experiences, 15 yrs exp. Andy 861-2668, \$70

Oct. Spec. New Clients, 1st time, one time only, \$50. E41

HUSKY GUY

College student gives sensual massage to men 18 to 60. Call **Steve, 864-6155** evenings and weekends

HAIRY TRUCKER

32 yr old Stud wants you to downshift with his thick, sweaty, 8 1/2" Mac \$60, 621-5102 E41

PLEASURE TORTURE

Even if you are a complete beginner I can teach you how to relax into new pleasures. No marks, no fluid exchange, no crude caricatures of power and masculinity, just slow, sensual, creative and safe pleasure-torture. If you've been curious about bondage and sensual S&M go ahead and "risk" a call to a great teacher. I'm short, built (5' 7", 160lbs, 29w, 42c, 16a) handsome, dominant, and experienced, but relaxed.

ROGER 864-5566

X-LONG X-THICK TOP!

HANDSOME WELL BUILT
Clean Cut
EASY GOING TOPMAN
Vince 567-2949, \$75

BIGGEST BODYBUILDER

25, 6', 255lbs, 53c, 19a, 30th HUNG
ALL SCENES
Available 24 Hours
(408) 427-4543
In Bay Area

Hot College JOCK!

34, Versatile, CB/req. 979-4797 Rex E42

East Bay Big, Bold, Beautiful All American, Michael 887-6290 E42

Tall Tan Blue-collar Top
Strong legs, hung & handsome
Mike 821-1477, 24hrs. E42

BIG MAN/BIG HANDS
Excellent FF Top, 5'11", 195.
Room w/sling/mirrors, \$80.
255-9363, callback req. E42

EXOTIC ASIAN

\$100 in/out, bpr 923-8700 E42

XXTRA BIG

Smooth, Cute 22 yrs.
Boyish Stud
\$100 in/\$120 out
821-2894 Timm
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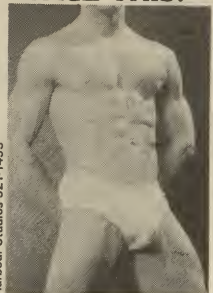
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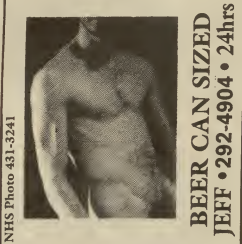
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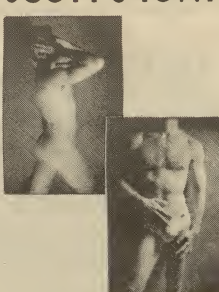
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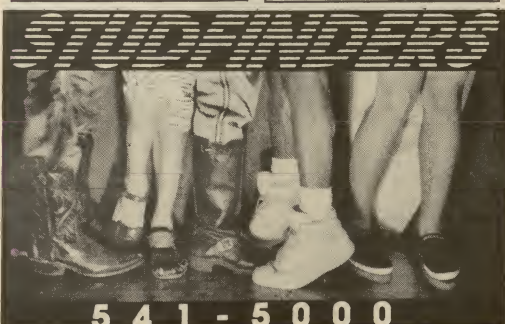
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MR. MARCUS



Emcee and whipmaker Jay Marston with "Lu" of the Gauntlet, auctioning off piercings.

(Photo: Marcus)

OUTCASTS Raise Almost \$2,000 with Flog-A-Thon

Last Friday, Oct. 5, was a night to remember. The Outcasts, a female SM educational group, were joined by the Leathernecks and a lot of other individuals to put on an event that raised a few pennies less than \$2000 for Harvey Gantt running to replace Jesse Helms in the U.S. Senate. *Drummer Magazine's* Joseph Bean joined with Jay Marston to emcee the event that lasted way after midnight.

Starting at 2030 or so, a long list of SM personalities participated in whipping demonstrations, clothes pins, feathers, flogging devices and other esoteric items that were bid upon by audience members and did more than titillate the curious. Large crowd on hand to bid for various "scenes" and Rock 'n' Roll Ramona gyrated and danced up a storm, while the consummate entertainer, Rainbeau, again brought down the house with her inimitable dance techniques.

Gayle Rubin announced that recent polls indicate Mr. Gantt is running neck and neck against Helms and they desperately need money for TV ads. If you haven't yet sent in your contribution, now's the time. The election is only a few weeks away! Being a native North Carolinian herself, Gayle is in constant touch with the Gantt campaign, is extremely knowledgeable in Southern politics and was one of the main catalysts for this fundraiser.

The crackle of whips punctuated the night air as playmate after playmate submitted to activities that had the



Ruth Marks tantalizes Dianne with a snappy cane.

(Photo: Marcus)



Lucky bidder gives Fakir Musafar a few "twists and tugs" to help Beat Jesse!

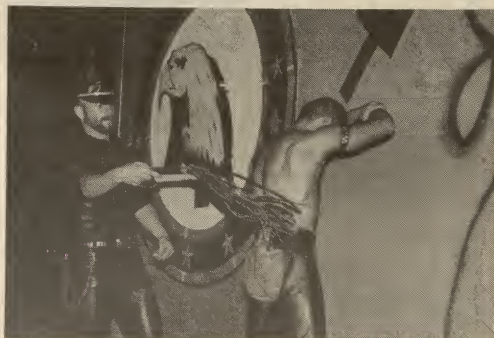
(Photo: Marcus)

males and females in the crowd aghast in wonderment and awe. Tony DeBlase demonstrated his uncanny knotting/tying together of former Ms. SF Leather Shadow and a handsome young man — he on his knees with his face in

Shadow's er, uh, crotch; Eagle bartender Nick Veratakis laid the lash on Mr. Drummer Clive Platman; Officer Bettie wowed the crowd with a whip on Ms. Iron Ass Dossie (or is it Dossy?). Bettie explained that she's broken many a paddle on



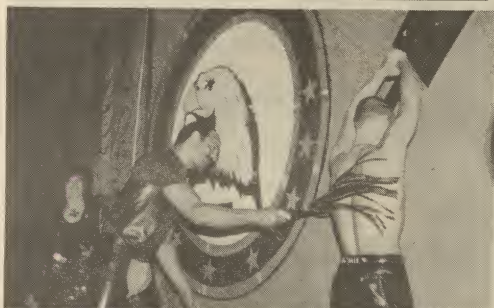
Upper left: Victoria enjoys de-feathering by Rena of Carla's masterpiece. Right: Myrna Vladik is elated with "Rainbeau's" dazzling dance fantasy. (Photos: Marcus)



Mr. Drummer Clive Platman soft whips Drummer Boy John Siracusa. (Photo: Marcus)



Emcee Joseph Bean demonstrates his "40 Lashes" routine. (Photo: Marcus)



Eagle bartender Nick Veratakis "strokes" Mr. Drummer Clive Platman. (Photo: Marcus)



Rock 'n' Roll Ramona in a self-flagellation sequence in her dance routine. (Photo: Marcus)

the "Iron Ass" and the feather/clothespin demonstration was certainly a highlight. Mr. Drummer demonstrated his expertise with a short whip on Drummer Boy John Siracusa. Do I see a marriage here?

It was disappointing to note that only one male San Francisco leather title holder was present; are seasoned observers correct in surmising that perhaps leather male title holders aren't into SM? Didn't they get the word? Did they offer to help out? Whatever the reason(s), San Francisco's leather community did raise money and I daresay, this one deserves a Cable Car nomination if I have anything to say about it. Thanks to everyone involved — you know who you are!

★ ★ ★

Saturday was pretty laid back: nice group converged for the Constantines' one-day run to Mt. Hamilton; road captain Dale looked content the next day, so it must have been a success; and an adventurous group for Pegasus MOC's weekend run to Grass Valley. Bikers delighted with a group of avid bikers who don't have to wear uniforms, adhere to regimentation or compete with other clubs — just ride, ride, ride!

Sunday dawned clear, warm and bright for the Castro Street Fair; booths galore — lots of outrageousness, costumes and sleaze galore. Too bad about the Sandy Van incident onstage. Sometimes emcee's just don't do their job and there is no excuse for rudeness from the audience.

After the fair, South of Market bars were full of people — critiquing the fair (which is not the same as criticizing) and some of the booths which were definitely hetero! Hey, they're allowed! A clerk at one of the local photo labs asked me: "What was going on over the weekend? People have been bringing in photo work with all kinds of naked men and women — in public?" Amazing how dense some people are even in San Francisco!

Nice, nice crowd at Thunderdome for the Real BAD Two party after the fair. Scores of muscled and leather-clad dudes tripping the light fantastic and some fantastic music. Jeff Swenton and his 17 cohorts do know how to throw a party. Mark Lagasse and Jon Ebarb were in seventh heaven while Mike Winstead charmed

(Continued on next page)

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Bodies by God at the "Real Bad Two" party at Thunderdome after the Castro Street Fair.

(Photo: Marcus)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

everybody who came to the door — including a few Los Angeleno studs. It was another great weekend with the weather cooperating magnificently. No word on how the Tavern Guild picnic turned out, but why would anyone *dare* compete with a function like the Castro fair?

★ ★ ★

Presuming you survived the Flog-A-Thon, the Pegasus MOC weekend run, the Castro Street Fair and the Real Bad Two Party last weekend and Fleet Week just yesterday (did ya get any seafood, dude?), you might as well get your adrenalin running for this weekend's offerings and beyond:

Thursday, Oct. 11: Shanti Project's big annual dinner bash tonight at the Pan Pacific Hotel. Tickets are \$150 and they're shoo-ins to raise \$40,000 on this one. You can still attend if you call 777-CARE. While you're at it, ask Eric Rofes how he's doing with Chris (Crispin, he with the Prince Albert).

Friday, Oct. 12: Sacramento's Leatherfest '90 all this weekend with special guests IML Mark Ryan, IMS Garbielle, IMSL '89 Susi Shepherd and many others. The "chain of events": Friday, leather dance at Clunie Hall is \$5 and a free midnight 'til 2 buffet. Saturday a leather breakfast at Incredible Edible. Sacto Leather Assn. presents fantasies, auction, demos, beer-bust and barbecue at the Wreck Room — \$5. Mr. Wreck Room Leather contest that night — \$5. Sunday brunch \$5 at Town & Country, and from 1300-1800 leather arts and crafts. That night it's the Wreck Room's anniversary party with pig out and beer bust at 1980 prices. For more info, call (916) 921-1466 or 456-1610.

Saturday, Oct. 13: RushRiv Leather Daddy's Boy Taylor and Daddy David present a Torn Jeans Contest at the Rainbow Cattle Co. with \$69 going to the winner at 1900. Also a raffle to benefit Food for Thought. Al Parker will be the Head Judge. Now I know you all have some torn jeans somewhere in your wardrobe? If not come on up anyway and see Al.

The GDI's present their annual Minsky's Show at 1930 tonight; the theme is "Broadway Encore" and billed as "spectacular with colorful costumes." Tickets not available South of Market unless you can find a GDI, which isn't easy.

to do these days. Remember when bike clubs were found strictly South of Market? Try the Transfer and the Men's Room. \$10 in advance or \$12 at door to the California Club, 1750 Clay. I'll be judging with Al Parker at the RushRiv, so I guess I'll miss it.

Sunday, Oct. 14: The 12 bare chest contest winners (Mr. Jan. through Mr. Dec. 1991) will be auctioned off for a dinner date today at the Eagle beer bust (\$8). Danny Williams will emcee and everyone's hoping he will not be too tacky with these men who are volunteering for charity (the AIDS Emergency Fund). Contestants will autograph the 1991 calendar which will be on sale, so live in the future with one of these adonises, and if you haven't bought a calendar yet, get one that's autographed!

In Santa Rosa, auction and raffle by Veterans C.A.R.E. for Sonoma and Marin AIDS agencies. It's at Kraft Hall in the Sonoma Co. Fairgrounds, from 1400-1900. Raffle tickets for two nights at the Monterey Inn Bay, roundtrip airfare, dinner certificates, aquarium tickets and more. Call Andrew at (707) 829-5393 if you want to help out or have any auction items. No admission fee.

Wednesday, Oct. 17: Leather Flea Market/Swap Meat at 890 Folsom from 1900-2200 by Bondage Buddies. \$5 admission and several makers and suppliers of leather, SM and bondage gear will be represented. Leather toys, videos, piercing, whips, bondage gear, electrical toys and demos. Call 621-6294 if you need more info. I've already gotten 18 press releases on this one.

Saturday, Oct. 20: Charlotta Manure and Society's Bad Girls annual pre-Halloween party at the Cafe Sn. Marcos tonight from 2000-2300. This year's theme: "Stretched and Stranded" (knocked-up knock-outs). Imagine these muscle sisters buying maternity drag? Expectant "ladies" of society on parade and all to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. Tickets are \$25 advance, or \$30 at door, after which they will stroll on the Disastro. I see Jeff Swenton is involved again; so it should be a —blessed event?

While we're talking Halloween, the Eagle's Leather and Feathers party this year is on Tuesday, Oct. 30. More details on this one later.

★ ★ ★

Kevin Walsh of the Stop AIDS Project is smiling a lot these days. It's because Ignacio and Paula, owners of The Border Cafe (8th & Folsom) are helping the cause. If you

savor their flawless cuisine on Mondays and Tuesdays throughout October (there must be two persons), the Border will donate the money from one of your dinners to Stop AIDS. Get down there and scarf up those tacos, enchiladas and burritos!

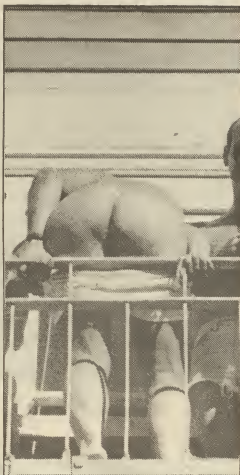
Meanwhile, the dirty Ol' Frenchman at Le Salon is still donating a portion of his sales to the AIDS Emergency Fund and it's into the thou\$and\$ already. Wouldn't it be nice if more businesses did the same?

They're having a benefit for Doris Fish at the Victoria Theatre on Nov. 3 to help pay for her medical and living expenses. It's a star-studded performance of quite a few notable entertainers. In spite of Doris' dislike of leathermen and women, let's show her we can take it and we know how to support brothers in need. Besides helping Doris out in her hour of need, we'll prove we are above adverse criticism

and prejudice against what we choose to be. And I mean it.

Good seeing Jan Lyon, Ms. Natl. Leather Association down for the Outcasts' Beat Jesse Helms' benefit last Friday. Jan and her counterpart, Guy Baldwin will be passing on their titles the weekend of Oct. 25-28 at the fifth annual Living in Leather conference at the Portland Coliseum in Portland, Ore. Red Lion host hotel. Chapters and affiliates from across the U.S. and Canada will be there as well as many leather men and women from Our Town. Write to NLA, P.O. Box 17463, Seattle, WA 98107 if you want to attend, but do it today! More on this one later.

Keep smiling and supporting the worthy causes in our community and show your leather pride at every opportunity. And by the way, wear your leather while you're doing it. ▼



Moon Over My Castro, last Sunday Afternoon at the Castro Street Fair.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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Foiled

(Continued from page 36)

looks great (Hyams also photographed) with its tawny tones and misty sepia overlay. But even that wears out its welcome with overuse. No wonder Hackman and Archer seem so constantly skittish about being seen together — surrounded as they are all the time by so much vaseline on the lens.

The creative use of Cinemascope occurs twice (out of 300 setups) for some impact but otherwise there's no advantage to the film as a wide screen vehicle. Worst of all is the writing which plods along like Wagner's *Ring* in having to recount aloud the previous plot mechanisms for newcomers' benefit.

Actually 30 minutes are enjoyable and watchable. It's a perfect plane movie: The viewer can feel smug for a change that he's in a safer form of travel.

★ ★ ★

There seems to be a tawdry new genre out there in Hollywood: The Tabloid Gossip *Roman a Clef*. First *Postcards From The Edge* and now Clint Eastwood's *White Hunter, Black Heart*. Based on a book by longtime John Huston script collaborator, Peter Viertel, the film purports to describe the erratic making of *The African Queen* in 1951.

Huston is slandered as a cruel, malicious, obsessive bully who delays production with his egomaniacal quest to destroy nature in general and elephants in particular. Now I'm no big fan of the director, but, still, his work has more stature than Eastwood's — whose newest is the easy present candidate for Worst Movie of the Year. There's an ugly anti-Semitic caricature of Sol Spiegel — *Queen's* producer — that makes Spike Lee's doings in *Mo' Better Blues* seem benign by comparison. Eastwood tries to get off the hook with an extended send-up of Hitler sympathizers but this really only compounds the previous ugliness.

The story is told from the point of view of disenchanted hero Viertel, who decided to settle the score with this poison pen letter. Viertel lets us know that he is kind to oppressed minorities, that he's a terrific soccer player, even that "he's hung like a horse." Apparently Huston had none of these attributes.

This vanity production is so dimly photographed that I was wondering if it weren't a ploy to contrast the initial British scenes with the subsequent blazing sun of Africa. But even out on the Kenyan expanses in broad daylight it's impossible to see anyone's face or reactions.

Eastwood and his cinematographer Jack Green tried to pull the same ruse in *Bird*, but then I thought they just didn't know how to light dark-skinned people. But twice in a row is sheer incompetence. I felt like Bette Davis at the climax of *Dark Victory*. But then again Eastwood has so little creative control over his fellow players that I guess he assumed if he kept them in the dark enough, no one would notice the bad acting.

The film is relentlessly pretentious, obvious, pedantic, hectoring and abusive. It assumes a high moral tone and snobbishly expects its audience to share with glee that handily postured finger-pointing. ▼

Secret

(Continued from page 44)

the war-surviving outcasts of other nations, they will — despite the arrival of children and other expected satisfactions — end their days as political agitators distanced from any sense of "home."

Secret Anniversaries is well-written and well-researched in ways that frequently amuse in their period-savvy flair. (When Caitlin first wears a garment made of nuevo-techno rayon, she feels impossibly sophisticated.) There are many finely drawn individual sequences here, including the richly sensual, non-exploitative sequence in which Caitlin and Betty seduce one another.

A Vivid Outline

But *Secret Anniversaries* ultimately fudges its insights by failing to develop them. It's like a 10-hour TV miniseries (an apt comparison given its espionage-thriller tone) roughly cut down by a mean distributor to a 100-minute feature. All the character-development material seems to have been edited out; just a sporadically vivid outline remains in its wake.

It's like a leftist romantic-

political epic in which the dramatic crux has been chopped away, leaving only a thin buildup and a somewhat better-detailed aftermath. We've barely tasted Caitlin and Betty's domestic bliss before it's yanked away; the villains are so glancingly sketched we hardly perceive them.

Secret Anniversaries' non-chronological format works adequately from a reader's point of view, but it finally seems like an evasion. If Spencer had troubled himself with a more straightforward narrative sequence, he might have been forced to tie up a lot of too-loose narrative and character strings.

Curiously, the latter-day observations of middle-aged Caitlin, clogged by her own past and stymied by the values of her '60s hippie son (sired by Joe), give *Secret Anniversaries* some of its most moving passages. But as it stands, this novel seems a brave cop-out. It wrestles with sexual identification in impossible time/political circumstances, yet it finally palls because the writer lacks the discipline to explore his characters fully through every inch of their psychological journey. ▼

Families

(Continued from page 44)

open, steady, happy union of Davey and Ken stands in contrast to those of the hetero couples, which are tainted with shabby secretcies. The dominant theme is the need for real honesty, and the author successfully fleshes out what is, on the surface at any rate, a rather trite idea.

The complexities of character and plot are treated fully and realistically. Helen and Jacqueline can't simply stop loving their errant husbands. Gordon writhes under a burden of guilt. The teenage sons must wrestle with the problems of their own identities. Davey himself is evasive when asked if he is sexually faithful to Ken.

In *Families* Davey is different from the knockabout rogue of the earlier books. Is it merely middle age that has made the difference? More likely, it is a deeper understanding of himself and those he considers "family." Here, Watmough demonstrates how vital it is that this precious social unit enhance loving with honesty. ▼

Garden

(Continued from page 45)

The collection is primarily heterosexual (one might say relentlessly heterosexual), which makes the appearance of Leslea Newman's "A Letter to Harvey Milk" a special treat. But the focus of the narratives, on questions of assimilation and loyalty to one's tradition, indeed on what it means to be other, to be marginal in a dominant culture, has powerful resonances for the lesbian and gay communities as well.

We all have battles to fight with Christian hetero-patriarchy (and if you don't, why not?), and it is instructive to discover the ways in which one culture has fought its battles in this century. Of particular interest in this respect is Joanne Greenberg's "L'olam and White Shell Woman" in which a Jewish woman connects her history to the ancient traditions of the Navaho as a group of women share the dances and songs of their heritage.

I recommend both of these collections. The stories offer a range of styles and voices and moods and will provide pleasure in a variety of circumstances. They are a garden of readerly delights. ▼

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A great Third Anniversary Celebration at the all new The Swallow last weekend. A truly fabulous time was had all.

Dennis Tyler of A-Unique Chef provided a fantastic buffet all three days. Tom, Mike, Jerry and Gary should be congratulated on such a beautiful new decor. Lot's of luck, guys.

Danny Woodland is recovering nicely after a very serious operation and should be up and about shortly. Of course, his roommate, Ms. Jackie, is taking good care of him.

Our good friend and Bette Bonko's roommate, Jim Spillman, has retired and is moving this month to Little Rock, Arkansas. You'll be missed by many friends here in the city, Jim, but whenever you want to come back for a visit I have a spot for you. Happy retirement.

The next meeting of the San Francisco Tavern Guild will be held at Kimo's on Polk Street on Tuesday, Oct. 16, starting at 1 p.m. sharp. So do plan on coming down early for good seating as these meetings are growing larger now under the new president, Stanley Boyd.

On Oct. 18, starting at 5 p.m., Craig of Kimo's will be having his Thursday party. It's the "After Shock Party" and it promises to be a lot of fun with food and laughs for all. So mark your calendar now so that you don't miss it.



Living it up at the new, improved Swallow. (Photo: Rick Gerhalter)

(Hi Ho the Dairy-Oh) Ms. Ronnie's on the Plank

Yes, that is the popular Ms. Ronnie Lynn on the plank at Steve Rasher and Jene's MotherLode every morning except Wednesday and Thursday. So drop by and have a drink with him in this pleasant and clean bar.

Before I forget I want to wish Jay Ethyl Noonan a Happy Birthday on Tuesday, Oct. 23. (Don't forget the date, Chester.)

Nice to see Max on the plank at The Cinch on Friday thru Sunday afternoons, and doing such a good job. You have a good man, Richard and Mario, and the bar always does look nice and clean.

Still working at Charpe's is the wonderful waiter, Cousin

John. He has been there from the beginning and he is most pleasant. He is Duffy's cousin, so that is the reason for the name. Incidentally, the pot roast dinner at Charpe's is superb.

Tomatoe Ripens (More)

On Sunday the 14th, the one and only Tomatoe, aka Woody, from Las Vegas will be celebrating his birthday and will be here the following week for a few days so we look forward to seeing him.

Jay Carr's granddaughter, Cassandra Jeanne, was born on Sept. 16, so we have another grandmother among us.

"In praise of honesty, a drag queen worth mentioning." Her name is Alexis, Joan Rivers, Lena Horne and many more characters. At the Grand Ducal Ball, Alexis and

Miss "P" opened the show. Ms. "P" tucked what I thought was a \$100 bill in my panty hose. After the show I searched them, but no money. So I made do with borrowed funds and as Bucky, Alexis and I were getting into the taxi, Bucky mentioned how sorry he was that I'd lost my money. Alexis said Ms. "P" did find some money, but it wasn't a \$100 bill, it was two, \$100 bills.

One hears so many negative and bitchy comments about drag queens that it is nice to meet a talented and honest one. Bravo, Alexis.

Well it is getting near that time, Halloween, of course, and I guess Castro is the part of town to be in that evening. I understand a few of the bars on Polk Street will be doing things, but not like in days of yore. But remember to play it safe if you are going out. ▼

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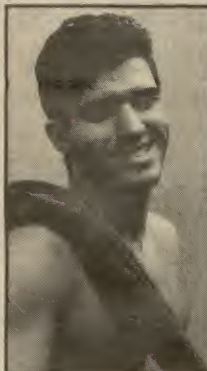
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